Reviewer's report

**Title:** Even local control of metastatic lung tumor is worse than that of primary lung cancer in patients treated with stereotactic body radiotherapy

**Version:** 5  **Date:** 5 April 2014

**Reviewer:** Hiroshi Onishi

**Reviewer's report:**

This is a retrospective study regarding prognostic factors of local control and overall survival after stereotactic body radiotherapy for metastatic lung tumors. It showed informative results and can be suitable for publication if it is revised properly.

**<Major point>**

1. Local recurrence was defined as local progression to $\geq 1.5$ times.....In some cases, post irradiated inflammatory change might show a large mass-like consolidation. How did the author differentiate it from local recurrence?

2. What was the actual difference of the SBRT method between before and after 2005?

3. The follow-up periods of the cases before 2005 must be longer than that after 2005. So the local control rate of the cases before 2005 naturally got lower than that after 2005. Add a comment about the issue.

4. How about the actual difference between the cases with or without using EGFR-TKI?

5. Should the factor of severe radiation pneumonitis be included in the prognostic factors in concerning overall survival?

**<Minor points>**

1. What was the difference among “local failure”, “tumor progression”, and “local recurrence”?

2. Add the marks of the censored cases and patients number of each subgroups in the figure 1-3.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**
I have no competing interests.