Reviewer’s report

Title: VEGFR-3 and CXCR4 as predictive markers for treatment with fluorouracil, leucovorin plus either oxaliplatin or cisplatin in patients with advanced esophagogastric cancer: a comparative study of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Internistische Onkologie (AIO).

Version: 2 Date: 19 June 2013

Reviewer: suayib yalcin

Reviewer’s report:

Dear Editor,
Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to review this interesting study investigating the role of VEGFR-3 and CXCR4 as predictive markers for survival in patients treated with fluorouracil, leucovorin plus either oxaliplatin or cisplatin for advanced esophagogastric cancer. The question of the study is simple and very well defined by the authors and the methods used are appropriate and well described. However only overall survival was investigated. I believe that the response rates, and progression free survival should also have been analysed. However the data still seems to be sound and the manuscript adheres to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition. The discussion and conclusions are well balanced and adequately supported by the data. However limitations of the work are not clearly stated. Such as the size of the study is small and the statistical power is not high. The authors have clearly acknowledged the work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished and the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found. The writing is definitely acceptable.
My conclusion is that despite the limitations of the study, the manuscript can be published with its current form.
If they may include RR and PFS it would be great, however may not be possible.
With sincere regards
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Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable
**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I have no conflict of interest related to the manuscript or the topic of the study.