Reviewer's report

Title: Ki67 expression and the effect of primary systemic chemotherapy on luminal breast cancer -a new concept for determining an institution-specific Ki67 cut-off value-

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Reviewer: Carsten Denkert

Reviewer's report:

In this manuscript the authors describe a strategy to define cut point values for Ki67 in a cohort of 114 luminal tumors and identify 35% as the most reliable cut point.

Major:

The definition of cut point values for Ki67 is very important. However, the authors should validate their cut point in an independent neoadjuvant cohort, otherwise it is not clear if the selected cut point is the result of overfitting in this moderately sized cohort.

Furthermore it would be important to include data on long term outcome of these patients in larger cohorts. In the analysis that is shown in the manuscript, there is no evidence of a significant relation between Ki67 and patient survival. This might be critical for clinical utility,

Minor: it would be interesting to provide some more details on the method used for Ki67 evaluation.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.