Reviewer's report

Title: Anti-hormonal Therapy in the Treatment of Ductal Carcinoma of the Parotid Gland

Version: 2 Date: 13 May 2014

Reviewer: Peter Dziegielewski

Reviewer's report:

Abstract:
1) The case presentation is somewhat confusing. The description of the initial presentation does not mention the parotid lesions. This should be revised to make it clear that the patient presented with scalp and parotid lesions.

Background:
1) The last 1-2 sentences of the background should state the aim / goals of the paper.

2) The majority of papers cited in the background are 10+ years old. There is a slowly growing body of literature on salivary duct carcinoma, gene expression and targeted therapy. There are several papers from 2010-2014 that should be included.

Case Presentation:
1) You state that the patient refused surgical treatment, but then later she underwent surgery. This should be clarified.

2) Was there any imaging done post-treatment? If so, it may be worthwhile to include a pre- and post-treatment scans in the figure.

Conclusion:
1) The idea of using targeted therapy for salivary ductal carcinoma via hormone receptor blockers is not novel. However, the use of Tamoxifen is. This paper is important in that it highlights an additional therapy for this rare disease.

2) Given that salivary ductal carcinoma is rare and that treatment options are limited, a review of treatment options including hormone receptor blockers such as trastuzumab, anastrazole etc. would be useful to include on the discussion. There are several newer papers from 2013 and 2014 that would be useful to include. There are some recent basic science papers as well that suggest targeting ER in select patients could be useful. Including this evidence would strengthen the paper.

Figures:
1) Figure legends appear to be missing.
Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I do not have any competing interests