Reviewer's report

**Title:** Nuclear Ep-ICD accumulation predicts aggressive clinical course in early stage breast cancer patients

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 21 May 2014

**Reviewer:** Stefan M. Willems

**Reviewer's report:**

This is a well written paper with interesting results for the scientific community. However, some items need to be addressed:

**Major revisions:**
Kaplan Maiar curves show difference in survival depending on nuclear staining. However, as the right panel is a fairly homogeneous group of invasive breast tumors, the group as a whole, left panel is a mixture of different types of carcinomas, even including in situ carcinomas. This is not right. The author has to show the Kaplan Maiers for each of the subgroups and after multivariate analysis.

The paper is based on nuclear protein expression, however the biological meaning of this localization is not explained.

**Minor points.**
In the M&M section: it's unclear how the regions of most aggressive growth are selected. Explain in the text.

**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:**
No competing interest