Reviewer's report

Title: Combined use of the automated breast volume scanner and the US elastography for the differentiation of benign from malignant lesions of the breast

Version: 2 Date: 25 August 2014

Reviewer: Ji-Bin Liu

Reviewer's report:

The authors present a study to use automated breast volume scanner (ABVS) and US elastography (UE) to differentiate benign from malignant lesions of the breast using pathology as a gold standard. It is a clinical research which may be interested by BMC Cancer readers. The paper provided useful information of the reliability and validity of ABVS and UE for physicians involved with differential diagnosis of benign and malignant lesions of the breast. However, the manuscript has many language and grammar errors which need to be carefully edited by an English spoken person or professorial editorial service in order to improve the reading and convert more clearly scientific information. There are some issues needed be addressed and clarified. I recommended accepting this paper with revision.

Specific comments:

Abstract:
Page 2, line 43-44, The comma after “….US elastography (UE) should be deleted.
Page 2, line 49, Please use “Forty-one” instead of “41” at the beginning of the sentence.
Page 2, line 50-53, Authors should provide more description of study design and technique in the method section.
Page 2, line 70-77, the conclusion section is repeated twice in the text.
Page 3, line 89, “ago” should be added up after “60 years”.
Page 4, line 165, “hybrid echo” should be replaced by “complex echogenicity”.
Page 4, line 170-171, “as red indicating malignant lesions whereas pink indicating benign lesions” should be reworded as “red indicating hard lesions whereas pink indicating soft lesions”.
Page 6, line 221-222, the authors mentioned “redefined the category of ABVS …..”. Did you mean “reassess the lesions”? This statement should be reworded and clarified.
Page 6, line 229-235, the paragraph of “According to BI-RADS category….as
malignant lesions (Figure 5)” describes the diagnostic performance of ABVS and UE, so it should be moved to the Diagnostic performance section.

Page 8, line 310, “time-save” should be “time saving”.

Figures and tables look good; however, the full spelling of the acronyms should be provided in the figure legends.

Page 14, line 536, Suggest to delete this sentence.

Page 14, line 540-542 and line 545-547: These statements should be appeared in the results’ section. Suggest to delete it.

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

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

**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.