Reviewer’s report

Title: Phase I Dose-Escalating Study of Docetaxel in Combination with 5-Day Continuous Infusion of 5-Fluorouracil in Patients with Advanced Gastric Cancer

Version: 3 Date: 14 July 2005

Reviewer: Li-Tzong Chen

Reviewer’s report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

1. The authors have defined their MTD as the dose level at which at least 2 or more patients had any DLT, and defined the recommended dose as one dose level below DLT, as did of Van Den Neste et al. (Clin Cancere Research 2000). With such a definition, the MTD of docetaxel and 5-FU were 75 mg/m2 docetaxel / 1000mg/m2 5FU and 85 mg/m2 docetaxel / 1000 mg/m2 5FU in the report of Van Den Neste et al., and 60 mg/m2 docetaxel / 500 mg/m2 5FU in the study of Ando et al. The 85 mg/m2 docetaxel / 750 mg/m2 5FU and 50 mg/m2 docetaxel / 500 mg/m2 5FU were the recommended dose level of corresponding study, rather than the MTD as cited by the authors at the SECTION of DISCUSSION, p13 lines 10-15.
2. The abstract no. of reference 16 was 4193 (NOT 4191).

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interest.