Reviewer's report

Title: Differential DNA methylation profiles in gynecological cancers and correlation with clinico-pathological data

Version: Date: 2 3 July 2006

Reviewer: ALFONSO DUENAS-GONZALEZ

Reviewer's report:

General

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

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

Authors have made a good job addressing this reviewer comments.
I still have a couple of concerns. 1. Figure 2 which is excellent, gives an overview on the global results, stills is notorious the high frequency of methylation in normal tissues for FHIT and AR. For interested readers it will be used to add a table to show literature findings concerning methylation status for these genes in normal tissues. Secondly, The numbers in table 2 regarding patients who received primary radiation are different to what is stated in text. In this is not clear still the definition of radiosensitivity and radioresistance (it is residual vs no residual viable cells in biopsies?). IF this is the case then is remarkable the high complete pathological responses rate (no viable cells) (70%). I Literature indicates that with RT it is around 45% and with RT-cisplatin 55%. I think these two observations are needed to address before publication.

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 interests