Reviewer’s report

Title: Combined immunohistochemistry of beta-catenin, cytokeratin 7, and cytokeratin 20 is useful for differential diagnosis between metastatic lung cancer from colorectal cancer and primary lung adenocarcinoma tubular type

Version: 1 Date: 21 June 2005

Reviewer: J Kim

Reviewer’s report:

I agree with the importance of differentiation of the primary lung cancer and secondary lung cancer, and hopefully expect that combined use of beta-catenine, CK7 and CK20 may be helpful for making a differential diagnosis between metastatic colon cancer and primary lung cancer. However, there are several questions for the study to accept.

1. In table 2, the third column should be written as +++, 0, 5.3%, 0 (according to the description in page 6).
2. Does not the intensity and/or distribution of immunostain affect the interpretation as positive vs negative? Wasn’t there any heterogeneity of the stain in the mass?
3. The number of the specimen of the study might not be sufficient to generalize the result for the clinical use.

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions