Reviewer's report

Title: Docetaxel Weekly Chemotherapy In Conjunction With Regional Hyperthermia For Pretreated Locally Advanced Non-small Cell Lung Cancer, a Preliminary Study

Version: 1 Date: 10 July 2007

Reviewer: pierluigi granone

Reviewer's report:

General

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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

1) Major linguistic revision (possibly by a mother tongue writer).

2) Better definition of the enrolled population. I.E. Clear definition of the rationale why combined chemotherapy plus radiotherapy has not been used as first line treatment. In fact, especially in IIIA patients a local radiochemotherapy plus chemotherapy approach could pave the way (induction treatment) for the chance to realise radical surgery. Or, if the decision is made on the belief that first line is chemotherapy only, why radiation therapy has not been considered in second line?

3) remove the emphasis on the results. Discuss them with state of the art multi-step combined treatments. Focus on safety and local control (as per a phase I study). The survival figures do highly reduce the enthusiasm for the proposed approach, thus describe and focus on other endpoints (better quality of life? other?).

1) disclose clinical staging Ts and Ns (not only IIIa and b).

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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) disclose reasons for patients quitting the study (8) and patients lost at follow up (4)

2) check references number 5, 7, 12. Authors seems to be listed by first name rather than surname.

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

declare that I have no competing interests' below