Reviewer's report

Title: Genomic imbalances in 5918 malignant epithelial tumors: An explorative meta-analysis of chromosomal CGH data.

Version: 2 Date: 16 July 2007

Reviewer: Rosa Noguera

Reviewer's report:

General
In the manuscript entitled "Genomic imbalances in 5918 malignant epithelial tumors: An explorative meta-analysis of chromosomal CGH data", the author aimed to describe the genetic abnormalities of 22 clinico-pathological entities of malignant epithelial tumors with more than 50 cases. For this purpose, tumor samples from 5918 patients with malignant epithelial tumors were evaluated retrospectively.

This study attempted an overview of chromosomal imbalance profiles in epithelial neoplasias, based on a large collection of case-specific chromosomal imbalance data from published chromosomal CGH experiments. All data used were well controlled and obtained from the Progenetix database.

Overall, this is an interesting and well written paper. The questions posed by the author are well defined and the method used is appropriate, well described and sufficient detailed. The manuscript adheres to the standards for reporting descriptive analysis of local genomic imbalance frequencies. The results are essentially descriptive. The discussion and conclusions were adequately supported by the data. In comparing the most frequent imbalances for their occurrence in different entities, some general observations were relevant for future projects.

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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)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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What next?: Accept without revision
**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**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