Reviewer's report

**Title:** The enhanced expression of the matrix metalloproteinase 9 in nasal NK/T-cell lymphoma

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 15 July 2007

**Reviewer:** Giuseppe Leone

**Reviewer's report:**

**General**

The Nasal NK/T cell lymphoma is very rare in caucasian but common in Asian populations. And thus it is appropriate to report the experience of a single center, yet the long period of patients enrollement do not allow conclusive remarks about the clinical behaviour, because of changing therapies.

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

The group on nasal NK/t-cell lymphoma should be compared with a group of NK-T-cell non nasal lymphoma.

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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).**

The increased proportion of MMP positive patients could be present in all T-cell lymphoma (all at poor prognosis) and this should be verified.

The prognosis of asian population as well central america population is not so poor as eruropean population (cfr the recent paper of Pagano et al Ann Oncol 17-794- 2006) and that should be stressed.

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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 of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.
Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interest