Reviewer's report

Title: Novel markers for differentiation of lobular and ductal invasive breast carcinomas by laser microdissection and microarray analysis

Version: 3 Date: 13 March 2007

Reviewer: Edgar Dahl

Reviewer's report:

General

This is the resubmission of the study by Turashvili et al. that used a combination of laser-microdissection and DNA array based expression profiling to identify genes that are specifically expressed in lobular and ductal invasive cancer.

The authors have successfully addressed most of the comments raised by the reviewer. Therefore the study is now suitable for publication in BMC Cancer.

Revision note:

It would have been much nicer to actually write in the revision note what has been changed (and also to label this changes in the manuscript) instead of (often) stating "This has been revised".

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

None

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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)

Abstract: Why do the author call the breast tumours samples "cells"
"We examined 30 samples (10 normal ductal cells, 10 normal lobular cells, 5 IDC cells, 5 ILC cells)"
"Cells" must be replaced by "carcinomas"

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: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests