Reviewer's report

Title: Association of Polymorphisms cMyc-N11S and p27-V109G with Breast Cancer Risk and Survival

Version: 1 Date: 12 January 2007

Reviewer: Katri Heikkinen

Reviewer's report:

General

The authors have studied the role of two non-synonymous polymorphisms, cMyc-N11S and p27-V109G, in breast cancer risk and prognosis using data collected from the Ontario Breast Cancer Family Registry. Based on bioinformatic analyses cMyc-N11S was predicted to have functional effects, whereas p27-V109G was chosen based on the published literature. cMyc-N11S has previously been reported to associate with increased risk for breast cancer, but the role of this variant in prognosis has not been studied. For the association of p27-V109G with cancer risk and progression the published results are inconsistent. No association with breast cancer risk or survival was found for cMyc-N11S or p27-V109G either by themselves or combined. cMyc-N11S was not associated with any tumor features, while p27-V109G was possibly associated with tumor stage. The study design is rational, the study well conducted and the results provide additional information to the published literature. I have only few minor suggestions.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

1. p.6 How is the number (260) for total cases included in both the case-control and prognostic study derived?

2. p.12, second paragraph. The inclusion of the codon number (V109) to the V allele would be more informative.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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