Reviewer’s report

Title: Modified FOLFOX-6 chemotherapy in advanced gastric cancer: Results of phase II study and comprehensive analysis of polymorphisms as a predictive and prognostic marker

Version: 1 Date: 19 November 2007

Reviewer: Manuel Perucho

Reviewer’s report:

General

I read the paper and I think it deserves further consideration. The opinion by the first referee was too negative and I disagree that the paper is scientifically unsound.

The work nevertheless is borderline, as the association of the 6bp deletion at the Thymidylate Synthase (TS) gene with cancer progression requires further confirmation after reanalyzing the data by correcting with Bonferroni, as suggested by reviewer 2.

If the P value remains significant, I would be inclined to publish the work, after toning down the discussion on the clinical value of the polymorphism, making it clear that the study is preliminary and in need of corroboration. If the P value becomes not significant, I would recommend to wait to increase the sample size and perform the analysis again.

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

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)