Reviewer's report

Title: Penetrance estimates for BRCA1 and BRCA2 based on genetic testing in a Clinical Cancer Genetics service setting: risks of breast/ovarian cancer quoted should reflect the cancer burden in the family

Version: 1 Date: 27 February 2008

Reviewer: Antonio Russo

Reviewer's report:

Discretionary Revisions
In the present paper the authors aim is to determine in BRCA1/2 mutation carriers the cumulative risks of breast and ovarian cancer to 70 and to 80 years of age respectively. Penetrance estimates for each gene are shown for breast and ovarian cancer in tables and figures that illustrate the text and resulted very similar to those derived from the Breast Cancer Linkage Consortium (BCLC) cohort of high-risk families.

A potential criticism of the study is that the authors have not taken enough account of ascertainment bias and that additional adjustment maybe necessary beyond excluding the index case, as properly reported in the manuscript.

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