Reviewer's report

Title: Peripheral pulmonary nodules: relationship between multi-slice spiral CT perfusion imaging and tumor angiogenesis and VEGF expression

Version: 1 Date: 23 January 2008

Reviewer: TAKASHI OHTSUKA

Reviewer's report:

The authors looked at the relationship between CT perfusion imaging and tumor angiogenesis and VEGF expression in patients with resected lung nodules.

Major Compulsory Revisions
(The author must respond to these before a decision on publication can be reached. For example, additional necessary experiments or controls, statistical mistakes, errors in interpretation.)

1. In discussion, authors insist that immunostaing of VEGF of pulmonary nodule is important for diagnosis. However, it is hard to know the results of immunohistochemical analysis of VEGF before surgery or biopsy (invasive method). These paragraphs should be deleted from discussion.

2. Additional table which shows tumor differentiation of lung tumors (adenocarcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma) and their number (how many are there) is should be added.

3. It would be useful to have mean sizes and range of each group (lung cancer, inflammatory nodule and benign nodules).

Minor Essential Revisions
(The author can be trusted to make these. For example, missing labels on figures, the wrong use of a term, spelling mistakes.)

1. Explanation of abbreviations should be written in the abstract.

2. Table 7, Figure 5, 6 legends. Type I is missing.

3. Figure 2, legend. â##Lowly differentiated adenocarcinomaâ## should be corrected to â##poorly differentiated adenocarcinomaâ##.

4. Page 23, para.2 Numbers of the type are not recognized.

Discretionary Revisions
(These are recommendations for improvement which the author can choose to ignore. For example clarifications, data that would be useful but not essential.)
1. It would be helpful to add relationships between tumor differentiations (especially in adenocarcinoma) and parameters.

2. Histology of three benign nodules which showed positive VGEF expression should be added.

**What next?:** Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**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.