Reviewer's report

Title: Heat shock protein90 in lobular neoplasia of the breast

Version: 2 Date: 20 March 2008

Reviewer: Harriet Kluger

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Major revisions:

The idea of looking at HSP90 expression specifically in lobular lesions is excellent. However, the manuscript could be significantly strengthened if it were to include a LARGE cohort of invasive lobular carcinomas.

LCIS is widely considered a hallmark of cancer rather than a pre-malignant condition. Therefore, without the inclusion of invasive lobular carcinomas, there are no prognostic or therapeutic implications to this study, and the last paragraph of the introduction is misleading.

Please change the title to read "Lobular intraductal neoplasia" to avoid confusion, unless invasive lesions are included.

The differences in HSP90 expression between adjacent normal tissue and LN are small. The data might be more impressive if graphically presented (rather than as a description), e.g. using box plots. Not being a statistician, I would like to know what the difference is between the Wilcoxin test and t-tests. Are they the same?

If additional cases can be added, this might increase the statistical significance of the findings.

Minor revisions: Adjacent normal breast tissue is not actually normal in this case - please discuss in the discussion section.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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