Reviewer's report

Title: Integrating chromosomal aberrations and gene expression profiles to dissect rectal cancer

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Reviewer: Xin-Yuan Y Guan

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Manuscript Title: Integrating chromosomal aberrations and gene expression profiles to dissect rectal cancer

In this manuscript, authors integrated chromosomal aberrations and gene expression profiles in rectal cancer. This is an interesting study and as authors’ mentioned, several genes identified in this study could be of additional value for explaining rectal tumorigenesis.

One minor essential revision:

In Figure 1B, how did authors evaluate the loss of 18q and retention? If each column represents one case, several cases in the left side (loss of 18q) showed no obvious loss for most of genes. However, several cases in the right side showed loss of expression in many genes. Authors should explain this figure with more details in figure legend.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.