Reviewer’s report

Title: The development of a mini-array for estimating the disease states of gastric adenocarcinoma by array CGH

Version: 1 Date: 13 January 2008

Reviewer: Pulivarthi Rao

Reviewer's report:

Fuquay et al analyzed 83 Gastric adenocarcinomas by low-resolution array CGH. They used this data to generate a training-sample set. They used two different methods and identified 51 clones that were associated with lymph node and liver metastasis, tumor invasion, peritoneal dissemination and histological subtypes. Subsequently, the authors generated diagnostic mini-array for the gastric adenocarcinoma.

Comments:

1. The total number of clones identified based on two independent analytical methods was 51. However, the mini-array contained only 50 clones.
2. The authors should provide detailed results for all 83 cases analyzed in the present communication.
3. Although, the mini-array was tested with independent set of tumors, the authors should validate their initial findings either by FISH on paraffin sections or Q RT-PCR.
4. The BAC ID needs to be incorporated into the Table 2.

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

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests