Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 1 Date: 10 April 2008

Reviewer: Tina Hernandez-Boussard

Reviewer's report:

The article, The development of a mini-array for estimating the disease states of gastric adenocarcinoma by array CGH describes a mini array that they have used to assess diagnostic parameters. While the idea is certainly interesting, I feel that their reported blind evaluations are lacking both in number and accuracy, other than depth of tumor invasion, which they report with 96% accuracy. They conclude that this array makes possible to determine optimal treatment plans, but with a 67% accuracy for diagnosis, I think that they have a long way to go before this can be used as a diagnostic tool.

In the methods section, I would like to have a description of their 'Method 1", what algorithms was used to build the tree

The authors mention several areas of the genome that were amplified, however they never mention if these are novel finding. Are there other reports of these amplifications in gastric adenocarcinoma or any other cancers

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