Reviewer’s report

Title: Prognostic Impact of Array-based Genomic Profiles in Esophageal Squamous Cell Cancer

Version: 1 Date: 19 December 2007

Reviewer: LIDONG WANG

Reviewer’s report:

Re: “Prognostic Impact of Array-based Genomic Profiles in Esophageal Squamous Cell Cancer” by Dr. Ana Carneiro, corresponding author.

This is an interesting study to clarify the copy number alterations in 30 stage I-IV ESCC and the relationship between the genetic alterations and stage, differentiation and survival. This study demonstrates that gain of 7p22.3 predicted nodal metastases and gains of 1p36.32 and 19q13.3 independently predicted poor survival in multivariate analysis.

The manuscript is acceptable if suggested corrections are made.

1) The manuscript should describe more clearly on the background of the patients, if these patients are from the same area or local population.

2) The number of esophageal cancer in each stage is too smaller (3 cases in stage I, 9 in II, 7 in III, 11 in IV), therefore, the conclusion drawn from this small case study may not valid. It will be great if more subjects are added.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests