Reviewer’s report

Title: Histological evaluation of AMPK signalling in primary breast cancer

Version: 2 Date: 1 May 2009

Reviewer: Zhijun Luo

Reviewer’s report:

The major findings in this manuscript are that phosphorylation of AMPK at the thr 172 site, an indicator of AMPK activation, and phosphorylation of ACC, an immediate downstream target of AMPK, are decreased in breast cancer specimens. The decreased phosphorylation correlates to pathological grade and metastatic states. This is the first report showing changes of AMPK in clinical samples, which provides important information. However, the date with enough number on scoring of matched normal breast epithelial cells should be provided. Without this, it is hard to judge if low detection rate of signal is due to technical issue or is truly reflective of differences in cancer tissues.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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