Reviewer's report

Title: A prostate biopsy strategy based on a new clinical nomogram reduces the number of biopsy cores required in high-risk patients

Version: 2  Date: 11 December 2013

Reviewer: JAE YOUNG PARK

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Major Compulsory Revisions

1. The word "Multivariate" should be replaced with "multivariable". (Please refer to Am J Public Health. 2013 January; 103(1): 10.2105/AJPH.2012.300897.)

2. The meaning is not obvious in the second last paragraph of the results section. What does "72.9% vs. 78.6%" mean? Is it the detection rate?

3. In Table 3, what does "384" (right next to 78) stand for? Do you mean 384 cases with a cutoff >0.5 taken the old scheme? or the cases with a cutoff < or = 0.5? With table and the paragraph related with it, I can not get it.

4. As for the last paragraph in the result section, the authors showed that they reduced the number of biopsy core in the group with cutoff >0.5, but it is nonsense that it is already their study design. Even more, they compared the group with cutoff >0.5 with the one with cutoff 0.5 or less. The positive core rate in former is less than that of latter even if there is no statistical significance. Is it the one Urologists really want to reduce the number of Biopsy core? I do not think so. Not to miss the cancer is the most important in the Oncology field. (The real positive detection rate would be around 80%, as you showed in Fig. 1B) The authors should have put the same condition between two groups to see the effect of reducing core numbers. Otherwise, if they want to stick to this study design, they should comment the portion of insignificant cancer in the "Second stage".

5. In the first paragraph of Discussion, Schroder et al. report the benefit of PSA screening. (Ref. 16) Moreover, their recent report is saying that the benefit become obvious as time goes by. You should make some corrections for it.

6. Fig. 1 needs to be refined. The letter is too small to read, and some picture is not so informative. You can get rid of some part of the picture.

7. You should show us your own nomogram as the other articles do.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.