Reviewer's report

Title: A Simple and Cost-Effective Method of DNA Extraction from Small Formalin-Fixed Paraffin-Embedded Tissue for Molecular Oncologic Testing

Version: 4
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Reviewer: Shan-Rong Shi

Reviewer's report:

I carefully read the revised manuscript and other data you sent for this manuscript including authors' response. In general, authors have done some revision for their manuscript. However, for one major point that I pointed out in my comments with respect to High temperature heating as a basic factor of DNA extraction from FFPE tissue sections being a critical issue was not addressed in a satisfactory scientific way. In the revised version, authors did not notice this critical point, as they said that the heat of 98°C for 10 minutes is somewhat like “inactivation” of enzyme digestion (Line 157). I wish to recommend authors read the following references: (1) Shi, S.-R., Datar, R., Liu, C., Wu, L., Zhang, Z., Cote, R. J., Taylor, C. R. DNA extraction from archival formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tissues: heat-induced retrieval in alkaline solution. Histochemistry & Cell Biology. 122(3):211-8, 2004; (2) Shi, S.-R., Cote, R.J., Wu, L., Liu, C., Datar, R., Shi, Y., Liu, D., Lim, H., Taylor, C.R. DNA extraction from archival formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tissue sections based on the antigen retrieval principle: heating under the influence of pH. J. Histochem. Cytochem. 50(8):1005-1011, 2002.

Actually, in recent years, numerous publications have demonstrated the effect of high temperature heating procedure is an important approach for DNA/RNA and protein extraction from FFPE tissue sections that is a valuable, simple, and effective approach in archival molecular morphology. I wish that authors may read these publications and address this manuscript once more.