Reviewer's report

**Title:** P53 nuclear stabilization is associated with FHIT loss and younger age of onset in squamous cell carcinoma of oral tongue

**Version:** 1  
**Date:** 13 July 2014

**Reviewer:** Joel Schwartz

Reviewer's report:

1. There are no major revisions
2. Minor revisions: A statement that the IHC results may or may not be representative of the whole specimen as there is no method provided that distinguished site of selection of specimen material in relationship to growth border of the tumor mass.
3. Discretionary revisions. A statement that significance to result is presence of limited numbers of cases that are under review. Moreover, this study does provide a systematic approach to determine important molecular indices that reflect selective influence upon epithelial clones and possible clinical outcome. In addition statement of epidemiological variables present in this population and a statistical correlation to molecular results would be helpful to arrive at a better risk determination.

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'