Reviewer’s report

Title: Immunohistochemical and other prognostic factors in B cell non Hodgkin lymphoma patients, Kampala, Uganda

Version: 3 Date: 31 August 2009

Reviewer: Yasufumi Masaki

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revision:
This article is the interesting and important report from Uganda. There are some different characteristics the patients between developed countries and developing countries. Surprisingly, the majority of B-NHLs were Burkitt lymphomas. However, they described that CD30 positivity was high and was one of the better predictive factor, it sounds peculiar, because CD 30 positivity in Burkitt lymphoma patients might be not so high in the developed countries. The author must describe the reason why.

How was the EBV infection state? Probably, the information for EBV antibody titers would not been given, like insufficient LDH data. However, the author should do the additional immuno-staining for LMP-1 and in situ hybridization for EBERs, if possible. CD 30 positivity and its relatively better prognosis may be correlated with LMP-1, thus, the information is important. At least 10 samples of CD30 positive cases (no necessary for all cases) would be examined LMP1, and discussion about correlation with EBV infection would be added.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.