Reviewer's report

**Title:** 5-alpha Reductase Inhibitors and Prostate Cancer Prevention: where do we turn now?

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 10 June 2011

**Reviewer:** Alexandre Zlotta

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors reviewed current strategies for preventing prostate cancer in general, but focused specifically on the 5-alpha-reductase inhibitors (5-ARI) finasteride and dutasteride.

They analyzed and commented the reasons why the FDA did not approve the use of 5 ARIs for prostate cancer prevention and speculate about prostate cancer prevention's future.

This review paper is well written and balanced.

Some may argue that the issue of high grade PCa was kind of settled by some of the post-hoc analysis. However the matter of the fact is that this high grade issue remains in the back of everyone's mind. Including the FDA.

Minor comments

The abstract presented by Neil Fleshner at the 2011 ASCO could have been included and discussed. The reviewer acknowledges that it is not a peer-reviewed published paper but it constitutes an important piece of information.

J Clin Oncol 29: 2011 (suppl 7; abstr 2)
N. Fleshner, M. S. Lucia, K. Melich, I. M. Nandy, L. Black, R. S. Rittmaster.

Effect of dutasteride on prostate cancer progression and cancer diagnosis on rebiopsy in the REDEEM active surveillance study.

Meeting: 2011 Genitourinary Cancers Symposium
Presenter: Neil Fleshner
Session: Welcome and General Session I: Emerging Trends in the Characterization and Treatment Decisions of Newly Diagnosed Prostate Cancer (General Session)

The use of 5ARIs in men with low volume low grade PCa managed by AS is certainly worth mentioning and discussing.

**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