Reviewer’s report


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Reviewer: Liron Pantanowitz

Reviewer’s report:

This is a well written review article. I have the following minor recommendations & questions for the authors:

1. Explain what is meant by cytopositive.
2. Change carcinomata to carcinomas.
3. Briefly expand on the reason(s) why HPV-associated SCC has a better prognosis.
4. Briefly discuss the role of p16 in these cancers, as p16 immunoreactivity in metastatic SCC can now be diagnostically helpful of indicating a metastasis is from a primary tonsillar SCC.
   - Change the spelling of role without the symbol.
   - Are these patients at risk for other HPV-related neoplasms?
   - What is the effect on host immunity (e.g. HIV status) on these tumours?

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'