Reviewer's report

Title: Clinical significance in the number of involved lymph nodes in patients that underwent surgery for pathological stage III-N2 non-small cell lung cancer

Version: 1 Date: 31 August 2011

Reviewer: Kan Okabayashi

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How to count the lymph nodes? Metastatic nodes are generally fragile. Did you reconstruct separated lymph nodes in every cases before pathological exam?

Is the number of lymph nodes correct? Fifty-five dissected lymph nodes are thought too many. The concept of single-station and multi-station metastatic nodes is thought to be old but feasible, isn't it? Is 1,2,3,4,5 and more necessary?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.