Reviewer's report

Title: Innovative method using circulating tumor cells for prediction of the effects of induction therapy on locally advanced non-small cell lung cancer

Version: 1 Date: 26 May 2013

Reviewer: Brian Biggers

Reviewer's report:

Good article

1. The first statement of the abstract needs to be re-written or reverse it with the second statement. It sounds better.

2. In the methods, I would put the the type of system used, not just it was automated.

3. Your sample size is small, your conclusion is that the presence of CTCs reflects pathological non-CR. Should this be may reflect? The major limitation of the study which you note is the size. A larger study to validate the results would be the next step.

4. You need to explain what is a minor response and a major response. What is the difference. That seemed unclear to me

5. Of the patients who underwent pneumonectomy, did you find more CTCs?

I enjoyed reading your article.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I have not competing interests with this manuscript.