Reviewer’s report

Title: Vacuum-assisted breast biopsy in close proximity to the skin: a case report.

Version: 2 Date: 6 November 2007

Reviewer: Satoko Nakano

I am familiar with the literature and believe that this case meets one of the 7 criteria for evaluation in the journal: An unexpected event in the course of observing or treating a patient

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: No

Does the case report have explanatory value?: Yes

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: Yes

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: No

Comments to authors:

General
#1 It is a case report, a detailed explanation is necessary in terms of the background information including thickness of the breast and location of the calcification.

#2 Superficial calcification lesions are sometimes difficult to target by Vacuum assisted breast biopsy, and there are a number of studies on the procedures. The idea in this report is new and very interesting. The author said “It was an imperative need for this case” in Discussion, but other options such as using 14G probe, changing the direction of the insertion and using ultrasound-guided VABB should be explored compared with this method. It was successful because adequate lesion with microcalcification was excised and accurate diagnosis was established. Still there are doubts about whether VABB has been fully utilized.

Revisions necessary for publication
What next?: Revise and resubmit

Quality of written English: Acceptable