Reviewer's report

Title: Towards real-time metabolic profiling of biopsy specimen during a surgical operation by 1H HRMAS-NMR: a case report

Version: 3 Date: 15 November 2011

Reviewer: Timothy Ebbels

Which of the following following best describes what type of case report this is?: Other

If other, please specify:

Novel diagnostic method for surgery

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is the case report ethical?: Yes

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

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?: Yes

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

General Comments

The authors have responded to most of my points. There are just a couple of points which still require clarification in the text I think.

Revisions necessary for publication

1. Mirror samples: I think a few words of explanation could be given in the text to clarify for readers not aware of this term.
2. Thank you for providing the predicted Y and DmodX values. I think it would be helpful to summarise the DmodX values in the paper, e.g. one can say that most DmodX values were acceptable, except for biopsy 1 which implies that the prediction for this sample is less confident than the others. As mentioned in my first review, this can be usefully quantified by the PmodX value.

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests