Reviewer's report

Title: Circulating miR-200c and miR-141 and outcomes in patients with breast cancer

Version: 3 Date: 25 August 2014

Reviewer: ATHINA MARKOU

Reviewer's report:

Silvia Antolín et al in this study provides interesting results regarding the prognostic values of circulating miR-200c and miR-141 in breast cancer patients. These miRNAs seem to be deregulated in whole blood of BC patients comparing with healthy controls. Although this study is well done I could detect some failures that may be corrected.

Major points

The author refer that they used 5S and RNAU6 as internal controls. Which is the external controls that they used?

It is not clear how the authors define the cut off value. This point is too important to characterized that specific miRNA is over- or down-expressed?

The reviewer believe that the number of samples and the events are not enough for Kaplan Meier analysis.

The reviewer wonder if the author had studied the influence of RNAlater in PB and furthermore in the expression levels of miRNAs?

Minor Points

Page 20. It is a spelling mistake in the sentence 19.

In Table 1. The number of patients is not correct in some like Hormonal Receptors, Her2, MIB1 etc

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:

all