Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Intratumor cholesteryl ester accumulation is associated with human breast cancer proliferation and dedifferentiation: a molecular and clinicopathological study

**Version:** 4  
**Date:** 9 February 2015

**Reviewer:** Sérgio Dias

**Reviewer’s report:**

This is an interesting and timely paper which describes the accumulation of intratumor cholesteryl esters in breast cancer and its meaning in terms of tumor classification and ultimately patient outcome.

Major criticism: I am unclear as to what the authors mean by "dedifferentiation" since no clear evidence of a loss of phenotype is provided. Perhaps that expression could be removed from the title since it is, in my opinion, somewhat misleading.

Minor point: the inclusion of lines to indicate the standard deviations would improve the clarity of the plots shown throughout the manuscript.

**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.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests