Reviewer’s report

Title: Concept and design of a nationwide prospective feasibility/efficacy/safety study of weekly paclitaxel for patients with pathologically confirmed anaplastic thyroid cancer (ATCCJ-PTX-P2)

Version: 2
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Reviewer: Rossella Elisei

Reviewer’s report:

This is the description of an interesting study on anaplastic thyroid cancer. The number of participating center is quite significant and the number of patients enrolled (n=71) is rather big taking into consideration the rarity of anaplastic thyroid cancer. The only other study including a big number of patients with anaplastic thyroid cancer is the one published by Sosa and co-authors.

The study is very interesting and we are waiting for the final results.

We have only few questions:

1) Is there any control arm? If not, how can the authors demonstrate the efficacy of the drug? Please better explain this specific point of the design of the study protocol.

2) The authors say that the therapy was continued when it was available and the patient’s physician considered it to be appropriate: what does this really and practically mean? How many courses of paclitaxel can be administered if the patient will survive longer than expected?

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:

I declare that I have no competing interests