Reviewer's report

Title: Ki-67 as a prognostic marker in early-stage non-small cell lung cancer in Asian patients: a meta-analysis of published studies involving 31 studies

Version: 2 Date: 11 April 2015

Reviewer: Sohsuke Yamada

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Comments to the Authors

Song Wen et al. performed a meta-analysis to examine the relationship between Ki-67 expression (MIB-1 labelling index) and its prognostic value associated with the clinicopathological features, including age, gender, smoking status, lymph node status, and tumor differentiation. This research paper is likely from a little low quality (i.e., not new) data, and the manuscript is very likely a poor study.

At the very least, the authors should,

Major Compulsory revisions

1. Show and highlight what the authors have provided interesting and new idea from those meta-analyses data. What is intriguing in this paper??

2. Show the significant differences between the Authors’ paper and the previously published study, especially ref. #4.

3. This is also a critical comment. The authors have used the method of subgroup analyses due to high heterogeneity between each study. Should discuss and explain this heterogeneity of 31 studies.

4. One more. Should explain the differences between studies for Asian and non-Asian patients.

5. It is strongly recommended to check the text from persons who have written many original research or case report papers. The manuscript has contained many careless mistakes. Very difficult to read it.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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.