Reviewer’s report

Title: A phase-II trial of combined chemotherapy with S-1, oral leucovorin, and bevacizumab in heavily pre-treated patients with metastatic colorectal cancer

Version: 4 Date: 13 July 2015

Reviewer: Andrea Evangelista

Reviewer’s report:

Dear Editor,

The revised manuscript has been modified according to my suggestions and all criticisms have satisfactorily answered.

I find this version suitable for publication on BMC after two minor modifications from the authors.

The planned sample size was determined on the basis of a one-sided alpha error (5%). Thus, the confidence interval of the primary endpoint (DCR) should be provided according to the sample size specifications. The authors reported a two-sided 95% confidence interval (45%–81%) and declare that “this study met its primary endpoint” since “the lower limit of one-sided confidence interval of DCR (45%) was higher than the predefined null value (22%)”. On the basis of presented results, I did some calculations and the one-sided 95% confidence interval should be 48%-100%.

Please correct this mistake in the "Results" section and modify in the same way the abstract.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.