Reviewer’s report

Title: Construction of possible integrated predictive index based on EGFR and ANXA3 polymorphisms for chemotherapy response in fluoropyrimidine-treated Japanese gastric cancer patients using a bioinformatic method

Version: 2 Date: 27 May 2015

Reviewer: Xin Ma

Reviewer’s report:

Authors have used a previously developed method to reanalyze the dataset and discover a new marker which could potentially be useful to the rest of the community. With that said, I have some comments as listed below:

1. It would be better to spell out abbreviation in full when it's the first time encounter to ease the understanding, i.e., line 85 S-1

2. In fig1, authors have used varieties of filtering based on prior knowledge to narrow down the list. By doing so, authors might be able to remove a lot of irrelevant signals as well as to decrease the size of the dataset so that it is feasible to carry out the permutation step in the methodology. However, there could be a lot of interesting regulatory markers which might be more relevant to drug responses been removed. Could authors comment on this?

3. Authors have mentioned the differences in drug resistance with different ethics. For the marker that has been identified in this paper, it would be great to justify if this is more associated to Japanese population

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.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests