Reviewer’s report

Title: CYP39A1 polymorphism protects against toxicity during intensive induction chemotherapy in patients with advanced head and neck cancer

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Reviewer: Eng Huat Tan

Reviewer’s report:

This paper has interesting results albeit a retrospective study. As stated, it is meant to be exploratory and hypothesis-generating. The authors do acknowledge the limits of this study and the findings are of sufficient interest to warrant a prospective study to determine if CYP39A1 polymorphism status can be used to select patients for the toxic TPF combination regimen in a cohort of head and neck cancer patients often characterised by socioeconomic deprivation and poor social support. There are minor grammatical errors that I can detect in the manuscript which can be easily corrected. Otherwise the paper can be accepted for publication.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.