Reviewer’s report

Title: Prognostic Value of Total Tumor Volume in Patients with Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma Treated with Intensity-Modulated Radiotherapy

Version: 1 Date: 24 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Yong Chan Ahn

Reviewer's report:

Most of the previous ambiguous points have been well revised.

However, it is not easy to understand that cN0 cases have the mean NTV of 2.6 cc (range, 0-13.1 cc). Authors already described that the retropharyngeal lymph nodes were regarded as if they were primary tumor in volume measurement because of the close proximity of these nodes to the primary tumor. Therefore, cN0 cases should have had no volume measured. Authors are required to clarify this contradiction.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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Acceptable

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