Reviewer's report

Title: Malignant Tumours in Urban Ghana: Evidence from the City of Kumasi

Version: 1 Date: 10 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Research Square

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REVISION ASSESSMENT FROM THE ACADEMIC PEER REVIEWER:

Has the author addressed your concerns sufficiently for you to now recommend the work as a technically sound contribution? No

Reviewer comments: Ghana is one of the 17 countries in West Africa. The GLOBOCAN 2018 reports that the cancer incidence (age-standardized risk) for West Africa is estimated as 217.6 per 100,000. However, the current manuscript reports an overall incidence of cancer in Kumasi for 2015 at just 46.1 per 100,000. The difference is big. This makes us to guess that perhaps the Kumasi registry is just a hospital-based registry which does not truly reach the population-based criteria. The authors should discuss this huge discrepancy in the cancer incidence rate between this urban region and the West Africa.

Table 4. There is no cancer diagnosis as bone marrow cancer in the cancer registry and even in the GLOBOCAN. The authors arbitrarily categorize Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma as bone marrow cancer creates an incorrect presentation of cancer incidence data.

Table 5. There is no cancer diagnosis as abdomen cancer site. If it is valid, liver cancer and stomach cancer should also go into this category.

It is expected that all current research citing GLOBOCAN must cite the recently published one, the 2018 version of GLOBOCAN.

Ref.:

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.

No

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?  
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English  
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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RSQ

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