Reviewer’s report

Title: Impact of uPA/PAI-1 and disseminated cytokeratin-positive cells in breast cancer

Version: 1 Date: 02 Jun 2019

Reviewer: Serenella Eppenberger-Castori

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have now addressed all limitations of the study including the missing possibility to perform some suggested experiments or to enlarge the overall collective.

The sentence regarding the significance of figure 2 B is written in a undirect manner that doesn't clearly explain that the survival curve of the triple positive is not significantly different from the one of the double positive.

This should be further clarify in the text. The legend of this figure now contains “Zellen” (in German) instead of indicating dCK+. This minor correction should also be intergated.

Eventhough the study has limitations and reports negative results, my suggestion is to accept the manuscript.

My decision is mainly based on the fact that based on the uPA, PAI-1 results, the collective seems to be representative and the staining seems to have been well performed.

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

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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