Reviewer’s report

Title: The expression of MDM2 in gastrointestinal stromal tumors: immunohistochemical analysis of 35 cases.

Version: 1 Date: 07 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Baskin Yasemin

Reviewer's report:

Method validation of a clinically unverified marker should be demonstrated.

It has been reported in the literature that MDM2 is rare in GIST. Is the reported 40% rate specific to the population? a variation depending on the method applied to the field must be explained clearly [Appl Immunohistochem Mol Morphol. 2013 Jul;21(4):308-12. doi: 10.1097/PAI.0b013e31826ea7c0.

Gastrointestinal stromal tumors: clinical significance of p53 expression, MDM2 amplification, and KIT mutation status. Wallander ML1, Layfield LJ, Tripp SR, Schmidt RL

MDM2 amplification is uncommon in GISTs Only a single (3%) GIST was amplified for MDM2.


Five cases showed focal nuclear positivity for MDM2 (112 cases)]

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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Acceptable

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