Reviewer's report

Title: HER2 overexpression and correlation with other significant clinicopathologic parameters in Ivorian breast cancer women

Version: 0 Date: 17 Sep 2018

Reviewer: Lucio Santos

Reviewer's report:

The authors studied in a population of breast cancer patients (n= 608) the phenotypic expression of hormone receptor (ER / PR) and HER2 receptors in the sense of enabling patients to receive treatment. With this purpose they used the technique of immunohistochemistry. The clinical and pathological characteristics of the series are very similar to those described by other authors for this region of the world.

Technical aspects and classification scores are adequate.

The work is limited by the absence of the study of the expression of Ki-67 and the study of the Her2 equivocal ones. These deficits should be explained as they have an impact on the treatment decision.

I could not understand how the molecular profiles (Like), namely Luminal B, were determined because they need to know the rate of proliferation (KI-67) (Table I). This aspect has not been described. I believe it should be described.

In Table 2 does not understand what RO / RO and RO / RP- is?

I believe that in the discussion I should discuss the results a little better in the light of other more recent African studies such as: ecancer 11 763 / https://doi.org/10.3332/ecancer.2017.763

I also consider that the authors should argue that in countries with few resources it is possible to accept and consider that the study of tumors with these 3 ER antibodies is already a great advance; PR and HER2, knowing that there are patients who will not be spared chemotherapy (initial tumors Luminal A, but that are few given the delay in diagnosis) and HER2 equivocation.

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.

Yes
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

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I have no competing interests.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons
CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal.