Reviewer’s report

Title: Ten modifiers of BRCA1 penetrance validated in a Norwegian series

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Reviewer: Evgeny Imyanitov

Reviewer’s report:

This is a very elegant paper. The authors have decided to compare small groups of BRCA1 carriers with “extreme” genotypes, i.e. young-onset breast cancer patients vs. (more or less) elderly healthy women.

Minor comments:
There are multiple inaccuracies and inconsistencies in punctuation, e.g. sometimes dots are typed in duplicate (.. instead of .), title is ended by a dot, etc. Please check the submitted manuscript for the formatting.

First paragraph of the introduction is unnecessary for HCCP readers. Instead I would suggest to provide clear-cut justification for the comparison of SMALL groups with EXTREME phenotypes – I think, this original approach is a main advantage of the study.

Methods can be presented as a single paragraph, there is no need in subsections.

Please consider the correction for multiple comparisons. How many p < 0.05 are expected to be obtained in case of random distribution?

Table 2 does not add to the paper, can be omitted.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests