Reviewer's report

Title: Single-center study of Lynch syndrome screening in colorectal polyps

Version: 0 Date: 13 Sep 2018

Reviewer: Florentia Fostira

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting report assessing loss of expression of Mismatch Repair proteins (MLH1, MSH2, PMS2, MSH6) in colonic polyps. The study aims in identifying Lynch syndrome patients before being diagnosed with colorectal cancer.

The manuscript is very difficult to read through. It has multiple grammatical errors, while many sentences do not make sense, since the verb is missing. Please check the manuscript for spaces between words or sentences. Please refer to a native speaker for corrections.

Moreover, some terms used along the manuscript are not correct, i.e. dMMR patients (use instead: patients showing polyp dMMR).

If the manuscript is "repaired", I feel that it is worth to be published.

Other comments:

Introduction:

- All gene names should be in Italics.
- EPCAM is not a causative gene for Lynch; an EPCAM deletion is.
- The last sentence of the paragraph should be changed to: "subsequent genetic testing based on the MMR IHC results will ultimately confirm LS diagnosis".
- Please rephrase the second paragraph and check for errors (e.g. studys).

Materials and Methods:

- Please rephrase the patient selection paragraph.
- It is not clear what you are trying to say in your last sentence of IHC for MMR proteins.
- Multiple grammatical and terminology errors in DNA extraction and sequencing section. What does German Qiagen means? What are the amplified objects? What does mutation style means? Please try to rephrase the paragraph.

Results:

- Please rephrase the sentence: "the mean age…” years should be added and this is the mean age of what?
- Please avoid starting sentences with numbers.
- State in the text what you are presenting in Table 1.
- In tables 1 and 2, please review the legend (pathological information is not an accepted term).
- In table 1, what does canceration mean?
- The paragraph following Table 1 is unclear, please rephrase.
- The paragraph following Table 2 is unclear, please rephrase ("one case was not analysis")?
- Merge information in Tables 3 and 4. When you do that, reconsider your legend.
- When reporting mutations, HGVS nomenclature should be used (reporting in protein and cDNA level), while the RefSeqs used for each gene should be listed (Table 3).
- Please review Table 3; Gene names in italics and phrases such as: not detection vs not detected, sanger sequence vs sequencing, not yet seen vs not detected.

Discussion:

- Please get a native speaker to scan it through.

**Level of interest**

Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English**

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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