Reviewer’s report

Title: The effect of neoadjuvant platinum-based chemotherapy in BRCA mutated triple negative breast cancers - systematic review and meta-analysis

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Reviewer: Rajdeep Das

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript titled 'The effect of neoadjuvant platinum based chemotherapy in BRCA mutated triple negative breast cancers -systematic review and meta-analysis' by Caramelo, et al. touches a very important topic in the field of breast cancer by conducting a systematic review of published papers on triple negative breast cancer, BRCA, neoadjuvant chemotherapy, cisplatin, carboplatin. Although the authors have laid out a descriptive analysis, there are some flaws with the study.

1. To get a better up-to-date on the topic, the authors are requested to also include a review of conference proceedings from the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) congress, the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) annual meeting, and the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium (SABCS) to identify relevant unpublished studies.

2. Along with the variables that are mentioned by Caramelo, et al. in the current manuscript, the authors did not write anywhere whether or not they have considered other very relevant variables, like - objective response rate (ORR), event-free survival (EFS) and grade 3 and 4 adverse events (neutropenia, anemia, thrombocytopenia and neuropathy).

3. More importantly, on the line with #2 point - it will be interesting to see if the authors would evaluate the activity, efficacy and safety of platinum-based versus platinum-free neoadjuvant chemotherapy in TNBC patients as their secondary objectives. They can generate a safety profile overview showing Odds ratios for grade 3 and 4 neutropenia, grade 3 and 4 anemia, etc.

4. The authors are highly encouraged to clearly label their Figure 2 - Funnel plot of publication. In other words, what all the circle represent to which all published papers.

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