Reviewer's report

Title: TP53 mutation p.R337H in gastric cancer tissues of a 12-year-old male child: evidence for chimerism involving a common mutant founder haplotypes : case report

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Reviewer: David Malkin

Reviewer's report:

This is an intriguing case report that contributes an important finding to our understanding of the role of germline TP53 mutations in tumor formation. The concept of microchimerism has not been thoroughly evaluated in the literature to date, in part because of the difficulty in identifying patients/tumor with these lesions. The unique p337 mutation provides an ideal opportunity and the mechanistic explanation provided by the authors is reasonable. It is somewhat intriguing that the metaplastic lesion does not harbor this mutation - suggesting in fact that it may not be pre-neoplastic, related to the primary gastric tumor, or derived from another cell lineage. The paper is well-written and concise and the authors have effectively addressed concerns raised in the initial submission. There are few very minor grammatical errors that can be dealt easily, as follows:

Abstract: 5th line: 'deceased' should be changed to 'died'

Abstract: sentence beginning "Presence of this inherited..." should be reworded as follows: "Presence of this inherited haplotype in the tumor as well as in the patient’s father’s germline, suggests a rare case of microchimerism in this patient, ..."

Page 4, line 6: delete the word 'have'

Page 4, second to last line: change 'deceased' to 'died'

Page 5, line 8: TP53 should be italicized

Page 7, Discussion, line 13: insert the word 'their' between 'over' and lifetime'

Page 8, line 20: the word 'later' should read 'latter'

Page 9, Conclusions, 2nd sentence should read: "In contexts other than Southern Brazil, where the unique p.337H founder haplotype... would have been undetected and interpreted...".

Page 9, Conclusions, last line: should read 'the possibility of microchimerism'

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.