Reviewer's report

Title: A novel biomarker TERTmRNA is applicable for early detection of hepatoma

Version: 2 Date: 7 January 2010

Reviewer: Patrizia Pontisso

Reviewer's report:

The Authors have addressed the main criticism and the paper is now substantially improved.

The only specification still required is the control group used for comparison to calculate the specificity of hTERTmRNA. If samples of normal subjects have been used, this information should be included in the text.

Minor points:
- Results section (Pag 9, line 9): the number of the figure (Fig 2) might refer to Figure 5 (or table 1?)
- pag 10, line 6: spelling error (different instead of differently).

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.