Reviewer's report

Title: Increased plasma sVCAM-1 is associated with severity in IgA nephropathy

Version: 1 Date: 24 May 2012

Reviewer: Karen Molyneux

Reviewer's report:

1. Major compulsory revisions
The paper investigates sVCAM-1 as a marker of renal injury not specific renal injury aquired as a result of the patient having IgAN. A control group of patients with glomerular nephritis other than that caused by IgAN would have helped to define if sVCAM-1 levels were a measure of general glomerular injury or the severity of IgAN.

2. Grammatical errors
Page 2 replace part of with proportion
replace presented with present'
line 16 replace C with c
page 3 line 4 replace part with proportion and presented with present
line 8 replace full stop with a comma and replace A with a
page 4 line 9 remove in case of and replace we are in with a study
page 6 line 16 replace subjects with subject
page 7 line 2 replace remove with removal
line 10 remove short of such kind
line 11 add is needed
line 14 replace in vitro with by and add in vitro after cells
page 10 line 1 replace significant with significantly
line 14 replace significant with significantly

3. An improvement to the paper would be to use cultured renal endothelial cells instead of HUVEC cells

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

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