Reviewer’s report

Title: Urinary Transforming Growth Factor-beta 1 (TGF-b1) as a marker of response to immunosuppressive treatment in patients with crescentic nephritis.

Version: 3 Date: 21 September 2005

Reviewer: maria pia rastaldi

Reviewer’s report:

General
I believe the authors have failed to answer all requests, especially they have only minimally increased the number of cases, so that the power of their investigation still remains inadequate. As for the immunohistochemistry, I agree that the work is not centered on this aspect, however the authors have described data and claimed a statistical significance between immunohistochemical and histological parameters where they are not able to show a representative figure of good quality regarding their observations. By the way, even the request of eliminating the immunohistochemical image coming from another reviewer was based on the same evaluation of the poor quality of what they have produced. At this point, I think the paper is unsuitable for publication.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Reject because scientifically unsound

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

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