Reviewer's report

**Title:** Soluble Fas/Fas Ligand might serve as a diagnostic tool for gastric adenocarcinoma

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 12 January 2010

**Reviewer:** Kostas SYRIGOS

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors evaluate the clinical significance of soluble Fas as a diagnostic marker of early gastric carcinoma. They demonstrated that patients with adenocarcinoma have increased serum sFas, compared to healthy individuals and patients with non-malignant situations.

The study is well designed and the paper well written. Nevertheless the authors should address the following points:

- Similar studies in other malignancies have been negative
- Controls are of younger age compared to patients (50 vs 65). This might hamper the statistical significance.
- Patients should be evaluated for co-morbidities that influence the serum levels of sFas, such as renal and cardiac failure.

The paper could be accepted, after minor revision

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests