Reviewer's report

Title: Molecular, cellular and physiological characterization of the cancer cachexia-inducing C26 colon carcinoma in mouse

Version: 1 Date: 31 October 2009

Reviewer: Joanna Davies

Reviewer's report:

The subject matter is unquestionably extremely important clinically, as is the availability of a standardized model of cachexia.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. It is not clear how much of the data presented in this manuscript are novel (Figures 1, 2, 3 and 6), since they appear to be a new characterization of the well-defined C-26 cancer cachexia model.

2. Data shown in Figures 4 and 5 are insufficiently described in terms of experimental detail, interpretation, and significance. All aspects should be expanded in order to fully appreciate the contribution of these data to the literature.

3. It is not clear how the use of a C-26 tissue transplant provides a more useful model than the well-established C-26 model used by many groups in the field.

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. Not all abbreviations are shown.

2. There are several typos.

3. The literature is superficially described.

4. Proliferation and apoptotic indices inadequately described.

5. Timing of tissue isolation in some experiments is not discussed.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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.