Reviewer's report

Title: Co-expression of nuclear and cytoplasmic HMGB1 is inversely associated with infiltration of CD45RO+ T cells and prognosis in patients with stage IIIB colon cancer

Version: 2 Date: 13 October 2009

Reviewer: Laurence Zitvogel

Reviewer's report:

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined? YES
2. Are the methods appropriate and well described? YES
3. Are the data sound? YES
4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? YES
5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? YES
6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? YES
7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished? YES
8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? Yes
9. Is the writing acceptable? YES

- Discretionary Revisions (which are recommendations for improvement but which the author can choose to ignore)

I would recommend this paper for publication.

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

Please take out the last sentence of the abstract since other articles show that in various circumstances, HMGB1 is necessary for the outcome (depending on posttranslational modifications and clinical setting)

- Major Compulsory Revisions

Ref 64 should be replaced by the original article from the same authors published in Nature Med 2007.