Reviewer's report

Title: Insulin-like growth factor 2 mRNA binding protein 3 (IGF2BP3) expression in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma correlates with poor survival

Version: 1 Date: 24 September 2009

Reviewer: Christoph Kahlert

Reviewer's report:

Minor essential revision

Overall, the manuscript "Insulin-like growth factor 2 mRNA binding protein 3 (IGF2BP3) expression in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma correlates with poor survival" by Schaeffer et al. is a very interesting work and should be considered for publication in BMC Cancer.

However, there are still some minor essential points missing:

Page 4, Patients and tumor specimen

The authors should provide more data about the clinical and histopathological parameters:
AJCC classification: how many patients were Stage I, II, III, IV?
Resection status: how many patients were R0, R1, R2 resected?

Page 6, Statistical analysis

1 An univariate survival analysis should also be performed on AJCC stage, resection status, Grading, and chemotherapy (at least received vs. not received)

2 The statistical analysis should include a multivariable analysis (e.g. Cox proportional hazards regression model) of disease specific survival. This analysis should include all covariates that showed significant association with disease-specific survival in univariate analysis.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

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