Reviewer’s report

Title: Evaluation of Immunological Escape Mechanisms in a Mouse Model of Colorectal Liver Metastases

Version: 2 Date: 18 December 2009

Reviewer: Sara Michel

Reviewer’s report:

In the revised version of their manuscript entitled “Evaluation of immunological escape mechanisms in a mouse model of colorectal liver metastasis” Grimm et al. have addressed the changes proposed by the reviewer and responded to the questions raised. However, there remain some points to be addressed:

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. Abstract
   The conclusions drawn by the authors in the revised version of the abstract are not appropriate and do not reflect the main findings of the paper. The authors themselves state in their discussion that there are some major differences between the human disease and the animal model used, e.g. the degree of lymphocytic infiltration. The conclusion drawn at the end of the discussion seems more appropriate and should be used to replace the passage.

2. Results
   Figure 1a, 3a: Standard deviations of normal control animals are lacking and need to be presented.

3. Discussion
   “Thus, the type, not the quantity of tumor infiltrating cells may be a more critical determinant for the prognosis [27].”

In the light of recent findings on the impact of T cell infiltration for prognosis of patients with colorectal cancer, the sentence should be rewritten and additional references referring specifically to CRC should be cited (e.g. Galon et al 2006, Laghi et al. 2009.

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'