Reviewer's report

Title: Expression of Phosphorylated Raf Kinase Inhibitor Protein (pRKIP) is a Strong Predictor of Lung Cancer Survival

Version: 1 Date: 14 January 2011

Reviewer: Karen Reckamp

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The manuscript by Huerta-Yepez, et al. evaluates a novel marker Raf Kinase inhibitor protein, RKIP and phosphorylated RKIP to determine if expression is associated with tumor metastasis and survival. The data shows a significant survival benefit for patients who have normal levels of pRKIP expression compared to those with low levels. The authors should consider the following comments.

Major revisions
1. A discussion of lung cancer progression is used to evaluate RKIP in metastatic tumor, although this is not progression within an early stage tumor, but late stage from diagnosis. This more accurately evaluates metastatic potential rather than progression. The data evaluates survival rather than tumor progression. This should be clarified throughout the text.

2. The conclusions within the abstract and discussion state that pRKIP is a powerful predictor of disease free survival. The KM curves presented are for overall survival rather than DFS, and this should be corrected.

3. In addition, the “Strong” in the title and “powerful” in the conclusions should be removed as this is early hypothesis generating data in a modest cohort of patients.

4. Although Figure 2G, H, I, J are mentioned within the text, only Fig 2A-F are presented within the Figure, please correct. Fig 2I & J are not mentioned in the figure legend, only in the text.

Minor revisions
5. An additional Figure 3 is present, and should be removed.

6. Grammar should be reviewed and edited.

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
**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.