Reviewer's report

Title: Monocarboxylate transporter 4 (MCT4) and CD147 overexpression is associated with poor prognosis in prostate cancer

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Reviewer: Roman Nawroth

Reviewer's report:

In this article, the authors report about the expression of MCT1, MCT2 and MCT4, gp70 and CD147 in prostate cancer. They find a significant increase in MCT 2 and-4 expression and a decrease in MCT1 and CD147 expression and state that MCT1/4 and CD147 expression is associated with poor prognosis in prostate cancer. This finding is not novel and was reported before by Hao et al., 2010. Also, expression status of CD147 in prostate cancer has been reported by several groups before (e.g. Zhong et al 2011 and Madigan et al 2008). However, the study adds value to these findings by confirming some of the published aspects in an independent patient cohort. As a novel finding Gomes et al demonstrate overexpression of MCT2 in prostate cancer compared to non-neoplastic tissue.

Discretionary Revisions

1) According to the contradictions on MCT1 staining between this study and the paper published by Hao and colleagues 2010 my previous criticism regarding the use of different antibodies for MCT1 in the different studies and thus probably different sensitivities (not specificity!) was not addressed in the author's response. The authors do discuss this aspect in the paper but it would be easy to directly compare the different antibodies used. For further validation of these proteins as prognostic markers in prostate cancer a standard would be very useful.

2) Labeling of Figure 2 should be more detailed.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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