Reviewer's report

Title: Activation of the human immune system by chemotherapeutic or targeted agents combined with the oncolytic parvovirus H-1

Version: 1 Date: 22 August 2011

Reviewer: Stefan Kubicka

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The manuscript “Activation of the human immune system by chemotherapeutic or targeted agents combined with the oncolytic parvovirus H-1” by Markus Moehler et al. describes the strong adjuvant effect of oncolytic parvovirus infection in combination with chemotherapy or targeted therapy on the maturation, the activity in phagocytosis and cytokine secretion of dendritic cells ex vivo. In particular it is very interesting to note that chemotherapy and targeted therapy acts synergistic with virotherapy in the induction of an antitumoral immune response.

The experiments of study are well performed and presented data may have important implications for cancer therapy.

The only limitation of the study is the lack of in vivo experiments in suitable animal models (or data from patients in clinical trials). However, because of the importance of the findings even the ex vivo data are very interesting.

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?
   The current literature of IN VIVO antitumoral immune responses by oncolytic virotherapy should be cited.
7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?
Yes, but see also point 6.

8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
Yes.

9. Is the writing acceptable?
Yes.