Reviewer’s report

Title: Preoperative serum levels of lipocalin-2 and matrix metalloproteinase-9 (MMP-9) are associated with prognosis of breast cancer.

Version: 3 Date: 4 April 2012

Reviewer: Ralph Arlinghaus

Reviewer’s report:

I have reviewed the revised manuscript by Sung et al. The authors state that they do not have sufficient sample volume to perform Western blots to validate their assay results. However, I am still concerned about the possible cross-reactivity of the their assay. Therefore, I suggest that the authors weaken their title and change it as follows: Evidence that preoperative serum levels of lipocalin-2 and matrix metalloproteinase (MMP9) are associated........

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.