Reviewer's report

Title: SOXs in human prostate cancer: implication as progression and prognosis factors

Version: 1 Date: 12 March 2012

Reviewer: Ovidiu Balacescu

Reviewer's report:

- Minor Essential Revisions

The topic of this research is important and the data could be valuable. The design of the study was well done and the author’s obtained data are well scored.

1. In generally the methods are well described, except the microarray experiment (including the study design and data analysis). I suggest this paragraph to be developed because all results are based on this experiment.

2. There is an error presenting the results for SOX9. The data presented on page 11, section 3.3 for IRS (PCa=5.96±0.461 vs. Benign=7.16±0.228) don’t match the figure 2 (7.16 for PCa and 5.96 for Benign).

3. It is necessary a revision for two references:
   - Ref 1 is not an official one presenting the prostate cancer incidence;
   - Ref 2 is from 1950; I propose to update this, including hormonal and molecular data involved in prostate carcinogenesis.

5. Affiliation no 4 is not addressed to any author.

- Discretionary Revisions

1. Missing data, for discussion section, related to comparative microarray studies (for SOX family) in the prostate cancer.

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'