Reviewer's report

Title: Validation of podocalyxin-like protein as a biomarker of poor prognosis in colorectal cancer

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Reviewer: Caj Haglund

Reviewer's report:

This is a very well performed study on an interesting new prognostic marker. The authors have published their preliminary results previously and now they validate the results in two separate validations cohorts. Validation of preliminary findings is extremely important, but is very seldom done. Validation by other groups is still needed before podocalyxin can be recommended for routine use.

The methodology of the paper represents high level immunohistochemistry. Of course IHC has its weakness regarding reliability of scoring. Statistics is appropriate.

This paper is well worth to be published.

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'