Reviewer's report

Title: Biomarkers for antitumor activity of bevacizumab in gastric cancer models

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Reviewer: Bruce Baguley

Reviewer's report:

I have reviewed this manuscript. The subject material is timely in that bevacizumab is now not recommended for treatment of several cancer types, although it is still recommended for colorectal cancer. This raises the question of why bevacizumab has not been effective in extending survival in the corresponding clinical trials. This manuscript compares the effects of bevacizumab on eleven xenografts of human tumour cell lines. Two were non-responsive while the remainder showed small growth delays. The authors then examined a number of characteristics of the xenografts in an effort to explain the variety of response. It is important to note that bevacizumab does not neutralise endogenous VEGF. The results show that human VEGF and bFGF both have a role in tumour growth, and although the overall picture is complex, the results support the hypothesis that tumour derived VEGF and bFGF are essential components for tumour angiogenesis in the mouse. I recommend acceptance of this manuscript.

Just one extra point on this manuscript, in addition to my review: please mention the lack of figure legends - these must be added before acceptance.