Reviewer's report

Title: HIF-1alpha activation induces doxorubicin resistance in MCF7 3-D spheroids via P-glycoprotein expression: a potential model of the chemo-resistance of invasive micropapillary carcinoma of the breast

Version: 3 Date: 15 November 2011

Reviewer: Charles Graham

Reviewer's report:

The authors have addressed the majority of my comments. There are some minor typographical errors that need to be corrected. There is a sentence in the Materials and Methods that does not make sense (p. 6): "...treated with human neutrophil elastase (Calbiochem, San Diego, CA, 21 U/mg) in order to obtain MCF7 3-D spheroids, as described previously [21]."

Should be consistent with the nomenclature: pmol vs. pMol/L.

Normal Ig controls would strengthen the immunohistochemistry results.

P. 15: should be VEGF rather than VEGE?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests