Reviewer's report

Title: Human alpha-defensin (DEFA) gene expression helps to characterise benign and malignant salivary gland tumours.

Version: 1 Date: 16 June 2012

Reviewer: Rui Vitorino

Reviewer's report:

Comments to author:
This study was devoted to the evaluation of Human #-defensin (DEFA) gene expression in order to help in characterization of benign and malignant salivary gland tumours. The authors presented some interesting data about defensins. However, some points should be clarified before publication.
The authors compared their data with hBD from literature. Why authors have not performed the evaluation of these defensins in this work?

Other points:
In introduction:
Which candidates have been detected?
Defensines should be corrected to Defensins.
Objective in the end of introduction is not clear

In Material and methods:
Parotic should be corrected to Parotid
Was RNA extracted from all tissue or those selected areas?

Results presentation should be improved.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.