Reviewer's report

Title: PR-104 combined with gemcitabine or docetaxel in a phase Ib study of patients with advanced solid tumours

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Reviewer: Wan-Teck Lim

Reviewer's report:

This is a well written and conducted phase I study of PR-104 in combination with current chemotherapeutics.

The authors highlight very pertinently the limitations in the combination of this agent with chemotherapy as well as the limitations of hypoxia imaging in the study.

What made the authors choose non-small cell lung cancer as the target population for the phase II study of this agent? Is there any evidence preclinically of synergism of PR-104 and the chemotherapeutic agents used in NSCLC? The company had announced closure of a randomized phase II PR-104 study in combination with docetaxel in NSCLC in 2011 because of poor activity, is this the same study proposed and alluded to by the authors.

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:

No disclosures