Reviewer's report

Title: Low expression of hTFPI-2 associated with poor survival outcome in patients with breast cancer

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Reviewer: Nina Iversen

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Cheng Xu and colleagues have studied the relationship between hTFPI-2 expression and clinical and pathological parameters in 156 breast cancer patients and 40 controls, to find out if TFPI-2 expression had any prognostic value in breast cancer. They have used immunohistochemical staining and stratified the patients according to the degree of TFPI-2 expression level. 118 of the patients were followed up for survival analysis.

The authors reported that the TFPI-2 expression was correlated with several of the clinicopathological parameters, and that TFPI-2 expression was associated to disease free survival in the patients. Low expression of TFPI-2 is associated with cancer progression, recurrence and poor survival outcome after breast cancer surgery. The authors therefore suggest that TFPI-2 expression may be a useful prognostic marker in breast cancer.

In general I think the manuscript is of general interest and importance in cancer biology. I find the results very interesting and convincing.

Minor essential revisions:
The manuscript could benefit from some language improvements, as for instance:
- The subheading in results at page 8 should be corrected to: Immunohistochemical tissue staining.
- “Meandenstiy” should be corrected several places from page 9.
- “Homeostasi” at page 11 must be corrected.
- Include a space before all brackets.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare no competing interests of personal or financial atters in relation to the paper.