Reviewer's report

**Title:** Safety and efficacy of everolimus in Chinese patients with metastatic renal cell carcinoma resistant to vascular endothelial growth factor receptor-tyrosine kinase inhibitor therapy: an open-label phase 1b study

**Version:** 2 **Date:** 26 November 2012

**Reviewer:** Brian Rini

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors report a phase 1b of everolimus in Chinese RCC pts. A few comments.

1. Were there any histology restrictions?
2. How can they explain the discrepancy between median duration of therapy and median PFS?
3. The pneumonitis incidence seems high. Can the authors hypothesize as to why? Pharmacogenetics? Increased awareness?
4. The term Disease Control Rate is meaningless and should be eliminated.
5. In conclusions, the phrase "the standard of care in patients with VEGFr-TKI–refractory mRCC" should be changed to 'A' standard of care given lack of comparator arm in this study.

**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.