Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Experimental and clinical experimental studies on carcinoembryonic antigen-related cell adhesion molecule 1 in non-small-cell lung cancer: how does CEACAM1 manifest

**Version:** 2 **Date:** 28 March 2013

**Reviewer:** John Shively

**Reviewer’s report:**

This manuscript demonstrates that serum levels of CEACAM1 can significantly separate normal from NSCLC patients, especially those with early disease. In addition, tissue samples have a discordant ratio of isoforms when compared to tumor vs normal adjacent tissue. These results will be of interest to those looking for potential tumor markers in this disease and since the assay appears to perform better than conventional NSE and CEA assays (with a limited data set), the observation is worth pursuing with larger numbers. Overall the problem is significant and the study well performed with high quality data and data analysis. There are two issues that should be addressed:

1. There are many grammatical mistakes- too many to document for this reviewer. The authors should have an native English speaker edit the manuscript for grammar.

2. The PCR results that demonstrate the changes in isoform levels needs to better validated. This can be done by performing the analysis with several different numbers of cycles of amplification (only 30 cycles run) and by including an internal standard. In the table documenting this analysis, the legend should explain how the analysis was performed and what is meant by IOD.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

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

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I have no competing interests.