Reviewer's report

**Title:** Expression of nerve growth factor and heme oxygenase-1 predict poor survival of breast carcinoma patients

**Version:** 1 **Date:** 20 September 2013

**Reviewer:** Xuefen Le Bourhis

**Reviewer's report:**

This study is nicely realized in general and appears important in the frame of the growing importance of neurotrophins in the cancer field. Its publication in BMC cancer is appropriate. Nevertheless, some points should be precised.

**Major points:**

For immunohistory analysis, the authors used an antibody against NGF, which recognizes also proNGF. As proNGF has been shown to favor tumor development, this should be taken into account in the text.

2) Benefits of multivariat analysis compared to univariat analysis should better argued in manunsucrit. This should be also reflected in the title.

**Minor points**

References number 1, 3, 18 are not appropriately cited in the text.

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

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