Reviewer's report

Title: Clinical Implication of ZEB-1 and E-cadherin Expression in Hepatocellular carcinoma

Version: 1 Date: 26 June 2013

Reviewer: Olorunseun Ogunwobi

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions:
The technical aspects of this study are sound. The study is of interest to hepatologists and liver cancer researchers. However, novelty is limited as involvement of epithelial-mesenchymal transition in hepatocellular carcinoma progression and metastasis is now well established. Moreover, increased expression of ZEB-1 and decreased expression of E-cadherin are already known to be involved in HCC progression and metastasis. In addition, the work is entirely descriptive with no attempt to evaluate mechanisms at all. Of course, immunohistochemical staining analysis is a useful additional methodology. And the analysis of human tissues and correlation with clinicopathological data is important. Overall, the work is generally not novel but important to those like myself with particular interest in this area.

Minor Essential Revisions: None

Discretionary Revisions: None

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.