Reviewer’s report

Title: Prognostic implications of ezrin and phosphorylated ezrin expression in non-small cell lung cancer

Version: 2 Date: 12 February 2014

Reviewer: RB Roden

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions: None

Minor Essential Revisions: The authors should comment on the fact that the % positive staining for total ezrin is lower than for p-ezrin in the manuscript. Given that others have seen this phenomenon using these antibodies in other cancer samples, the data suggest that that the antibody to p-ezrin may have greater affinity than the antibody for total ezrin, thereby increasing sensitivity. The alternative explanation is that the p-ezrin is detecting a non-specific target, but Western blot analysis suggests that this antibody is specific, and that the affinity difference is the more likely explanation.

Discretionary Revisions: page 3 Delete ‘popular’ and use ‘target’ instead of ‘hotspot’

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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