Reviewer's report

Title: High STAT1 mRNA levels but not its tyrosine phosphorylation are associated with macrophage infiltration and bad prognosis in breast cancer

Version: 1 Date: 26 October 2013

Reviewer: Jean-Luc Davignon

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions:

In their rebuttal letter, the authors state that:

"Interestingly, STAT1 Ser727 levels are associated with total STAT1 mRNA levels. On the other hand, STAT1 Ser727 appears not to be a marker for bad prognosis but is rather associated with a favourable outcome. Our data are discussed in the Discussion section, 1st paragraph."

However, the statement that Ser727 is associated with favourable outcome was not found in the Results. Indeed, the fact that STAT1 Ser727 is associated with total STAT1 mRNA levels BUT is associated with favourable outcome does not make sense to the reviewer. Please explain.

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

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.