Reviewer’s report

Title: Y-box protein-1/p18 fragment in plasma is a sensitive and specific novel disease marker in patients with malignancies of different origin

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Reviewer: Reinhold Schäfer

Reviewer’s report:

In the revised manuscript, the authors have weakened their initial claims regarding the sensitivity and specificity of the plasma marker that cannot yet be detected quantitatively. This would be important to be able to define a critical threshold that potentially distinguishes healthy and diseased individuals. The study describes the prevalence of the marker rather than its clinical or diagnostic value. Estimation of any diagnostic value (in terms of early detection of malignancies) would require an independent prospective study based on blinded samples from healthy donors and diseased individuals. It would also be very important to understand the function of the p18 peptide, because the complete YB-1 protein has been repeatedly shown to exhibit prognostic value (e.g. in breast cancer or colon cancer). I propose to specify the title of the work in the following way "High prevalence of YB-1/p18 in plasma of patients with malignancies of different origin"

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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'