Reviewer's report

Title: A lactate shuttle system between tumour and stromal cells is associated with poor prognosis in prostate cancer

Version: 1 Date: 14 December 2013

Reviewer: Judith J Jans

Reviewer's report:

The authors describe an interesting and, from a clinicopathological view, interesting correlation between MCT1/4 expression in a sufficiently large set of patients who underwent radical prostatectomy.

Major Comments:
1. In figure 2, the authors describe and visualize in a heatmap the differences in three proteins across malignant transformation. It is not immediately obvious to the reader how to estimate the value of this observation: please prove the claims made with statistical analysis showing differences between the groups
2. Please also comment on why only these three proteins were chosen.

Minor comments:
3. In table 2, significant correlations between multiple factors are shown. In the results and discussion section, a non significant correlation between PDK1 and perineural invasion is discussed. This correlation is too suggestive given the high p-value and multiple testing and should not be discussed.
4. Similarly, the correlation between MCT1/4 and biochemical recurrence should not be discussed. Or if discussed, please indicate how independent the correlation with recurrence is of the pT staging.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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