Reviewer's report

Title: Thrombomodulin expression regulates tumorigenesis in bladder cancer

Version: 2 Date: 8 March 2014

Reviewer: Hideki Furuya

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. Due to insufficient introduction and discussion, conclusion (significance) is unclear. For example, although DNMT1 and NF-κB seem to be key factors in this article, they were not described in introduction.
2. Hypothesis of this study is unclear.
3. It is not clear what is the difference of this study when compared to the previous articles that discuss about role of TM in cancers.
4. It is unclear which one is the result from this study or from previous article.

Minor Essential Revisions

5. Authors may want to describe more detailed methods about cell culture, such as media, culture environment, and brief transfection protocol.
6. Figure 1, what are BA1-4?
7. All bar graphs, there is no symbol indicating significant difference.
8. Figure 2a, in TM downregulated HT1197 cells, TM expression seems unsuccessful blotting.
9. Figure 3, high magnification is required in order to distinguish positive and negative staining.

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

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.