Reviewer’s report

Title: Overexpression of GOLPH3 is associated with poor prognosis and clinical progression in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma

Version: 2 Date: 25 May 2014

Reviewer: Lily Yang

Reviewer’s report:

This clinical study investigated the level of a Golgi phosphoprotein 3 (GOLPH3) expression in 109 human pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma tissues and established correlations between the level of the biomarker gene expression and clinical stage, T classification, N classification and liver metastasis. Results of the study provide strong evidence supporting the role of GOLPH3 expression as an independent prognostic factor for a poorer prognosis of PDACs.

The manuscript is well-written with a clear clinical rationale for examination of the biomarker gene expression. Material and methods are clear. Results and Figures are well-presented. Statistical analysis and patients’ groups are appropriate. Conclusions are adequate and supported by the results. Identification of a new prognostic biomarker for PDAC patients is highly significant for selection of appropriate treatment for the patients.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

none