Reviewer’s report

Title: Identification of Oxidized Protein Hydrolase as a Potential Prodrug Target in Prostate Cancer

Version: 1 Date: 25 October 2013

Reviewer: Scott Garrett

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript assesses esterases in normal and prostate cancer cell lines for the purpose of exploitation with chemotherapeutic prodrugs in later studies. The authors have carefully assessed and identified one particular esterase, oxidized protein hydrolase. The objective and approach of the study is clearly articulated in the Introduction, the methods are well described and the conclusions are supported by the data. There is one issue that needs to be addressed below.

Major Compulsory Revisions

Only one issue that appears to be a point of confusion; on Figure 3 it is not clear what the 432 band is referring to. There is a band that is at a mobility intermediate between 432 and 537 that appears in all samples, and there is a band in the LNCaP-S-ANAA gel that is slightly higher in mobility to 432. Figure 3C attempts to have these bands quantified densitometrically. The graph of Figure 3 suggests there is a band in RWPE-1, but the only visible bands are at 359 and in between 537 and 432.

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