Reviewer's report

Title: Epithelial Notch signaling is a limiting step for pancreatic carcinogenesis.

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Reviewer: Charles Murtaugh

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The authors have been very responsive to the initial critiques, and now address the particularly important point that PanIN formation correlates with mislocalization of DN-MAML, implicating that Notch activity must be induced for lesions to form. The only criticism I have of the revised manuscript (Minor Essential Revision) is that the section on the co-culture of mouse and human cells, to detect cell type-specific Hes1 expression (Fig. 5) really doesn't add anything: it is a contrived system, with unknown relation to the situation in vivo, and the result is not essential (or even particularly consequential) to interpretation of the paper. I therefore suggest that the authors remove this figure/section (which was not present in the original submission).

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.