Reviewer's report

Title: Human breast cancer and lymph node metastases express Gb3 and can be targeted by STxB-vectorized chemotherapeutic compounds

Version: 3 Date: 14 October 2014

Reviewer: Toshiyuki Yamaji

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript “Human breast cancer and lymph node metastasis express Gb3 and can be targeted by STxB-vectorized chemotherapeutic compounds” makes several points.

1. Gb3 expression in primary breast tumors and lymph node metastases was analyzed using a novel method and showed several correlations as below.
   a. The expression of Gb3 and estrogen receptors.
   b. The absence of Gb3 in primary tumors and the presence of metastases
   c. Up-regulation of Gb3 expression in lymph node metastases.

2. Gb3-positive breast cancer xenografts in mice were detected by intravenous injection of STxB subunit.

The former manuscript was once rejected in this journal, and the authors re-submitted the revised manuscript with some improvements according to the reviewers' comments. They answered the points as much as possible, and the manuscript is suitable for publication if the following minor points are corrected.

Minor revisions:
1) In p15 L358, correct “estrogen, progesterone” to “ER, PR”.
2) In p15 L362, correct tumor to tumors.
3) In p15, metastasis and metastases are mixed. Unify them to the one (metastases).
4) In p17 L397, May-Grunwald Giemsa to MGG.
5) In p18 L426, fluorescence-activated cell sorting to FACS.
6) In p21 L502, Gb3Cer to Gb3.

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