**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Fenofibrate induces apoptosis of triple-negative breast cancer cells via activation of NF-kB pathway

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 13 September 2013

**Reviewer:** Wendy Woodward

**Reviewer's report:**

This is a well written and well conducted study that includes descriptive work, mechanistic work and in vivo studies. The findings are of interest and carefully presented. The only issue that reduces enthusiasm is that the in vivo findings while significant are not dramatic from a clinical standpoint and to use this in clinic it suggests it may be more valuable in combination with standard therapy. Examining the potential synergy with taxol or adriamycin would increase the relevance of this nice work considerably.

**Major Revision:**
MTT or flow +/- feno and chemotherapy agents would strengthen the translation of this work.

**Minor Revision:**
Discussion of how the doses used relate to tissue doses in patients taking this drug for hypercholesterol would be helpful.
Consideration of trying one normal cell line may be interesting.
Figure 1 A is very crowded - separating into two graphs or color would improve this.

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**
'I declare that I have no competing interests'