Reviewer’s report

Title: Microarray Analysis Reveals Genetic Pathways Modulated by Tipifarnib in Acute Myeloid Leukemia

Version: 1 Date: 27 July 2004

Reviewer: Gilles FAVRE

Reviewer’s report:

General
The aim of this paper is to identified the expression profile of AML cell lines and bone marrow samples from 2 patients with AML under tipifarnib, a farnesyl transferase inhibitor, treatment. The authors used a cDNA microarray containing 7452 human genes. They founded modifications of expression of many gene and interestingly their retained the one that are modified both in cells line and fresh patients cells. They showed that genes participated to networks associated to proliferation, apoptosis and immunity pathway.

This work is essentially descriptive. There is not functional or pharmacological validation of any of the target gene discovered in this study. However, the data are sound and well controlled and contribute new tracks to a rational approach in the understanding of pharmacological response to tinifarnib.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

The time selected for RNA analysis in cell lines must be clearly defined in page 8
There are 2 table 3

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
none