Reviewer's report

Title: Increased expression of integrin-linked kinase is associated with shorter survival in non-small cell lung cancer

Version: 2  Date: 17 October 2004

Reviewer: Yuka Fujita

Reviewer's report:

General
This is an interesting report of the correlation of ILK expression in 134 patients operated on at Teikyo University School of Medicine from 1995-1998. This cohort of patients was followed for outcome on median 75.3 months. Detail of the quality control was included. The statistical analysis was performed using standard methodologies. Staging according to WHO was included.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
The paper is well written but quality of the micrographs is not acceptable.

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
Table 2 has a mistake. Is the relative risk of ILK expression 2.927? Weak expression of ILK is associated with shorter survival?

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
None