Reviewer’s report

Title: Acquisition of Anoikis Resistance in Human Osteosarcoma Cells Does Not Alter Sensitivity to Chemotherapeutic Agents

Version: 2 Date: 1 April 2005

Reviewer: Janusz Rak

Reviewer’s report:

I understand and appreciate the points made in the rebuttal letter. Still, I remain somewhat unconvinced as to the merits of asking the particular question on which the paper is built (Why should one presume that anoikis resistance is predictive of drug resistance?). I am also sceptical as to the actual meaning of this information when applied to the realistic context of cancer therapy (What can in vitro assays tell us about tumor responses to therapy in vivo? - experience says - not much. How can we evaluate the impact of anoikis resistance in the latter context?). Why was it not possible to assess the role of key survival pathways (Akt, NFkB etc) in anoikis vs chemotherapy resistance? These questions remain unanswered in the paper. However, all things considered, the authors did make an effort to make their study more complete and I suppose adding their observations to the volume of knowledge on anoikis might actually be a good thing. I would therefore have no objection if you decided to accept the paper for publication in BMC Cancer.