**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Over-expression of Eph and ephrin genes in advanced ovarian cancer: ephrin gene expression correlates with shortened survival

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 18 April 2006

**Reviewer:** Ann-Catherine Andres

**Reviewer's report:**

General

In this paper the authors investigate by real time PCR the expression of Eph receptors and ephrin ligands in ovarian cancer. Overexpression of the receptors EphA1 and A2 was found in almost all samples analyzed. Interestingly, the expression levels of their preferred ligands, ephrin-A1 and -A5 were variable and high levels correlated with poor survival. This is an interesting observation and adds new information to the puzzle of Eph/ephrin function in cancer. The paper, rather a short communication than a full research article, is scientifically sound, well balanced and well written.

**Minor Essential Revisions:**

1. Abstract: Results: correlation of ephrin-A5 with poor survival should be corrected to p<0.01

2. Abstract: Conclusions: The Eph receptors and ephrin ligands concerned should be specified

3. Figure 1: The term gene copy number is disturbing, since it refers to the number of genes in the genome. Transcript number would be more appropriate.

**What next?:** Accept after minor essential revisions

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests