Reviewer's report

Title: Angiostatin generating capacity and anti-tumour effects of D-penicillamine and plasminogen activators

Version: 2 Date: 23 March 2006

Reviewer: Arjan W Griffioen

Reviewer's report:

The problem with this paper is that mostly negative results are presented. To my opinion this does not preclude publication, considering the approach to be developed for treatment of patients. The present paper does contain several pieces of new information. The discussion contains several hypotheses on why the results are negative. It might be expected from the authors to try to make a more firm point-of-view/conclusion on the usability of this approach for development to the clinic. Also when this would be a negative conclusion. At several locations the authors now try to write carefully in order to prevent the conclusion of lack of effects. (e.g. 'inhibited tumor growth by 58%' (page 15), 'cumulative inhibition' (page 18))

Minor comments
- For the tumor growth expt one respresentative expt is shown stating "at least 5 mice per group". It would be good to have all data shown. Is figure 6 also from a representative expt?
- I do not see how other angiostatic factors could mask the presence of angiostatin (page 19).

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:

I declare that I have no competing interests