Reviewers report

Title: Mutations in PIK3CA are infrequent in Neuroblastoma

Version: 1 Date: 2 June 2006

Reviewer: Ian Campbell

Reviewers report:

General
It seems that mutation of PIK3CA may be one of the most common somatic mutations in cancer, but to date the involvement of PIK3CA in neuroblatoma has not been described. This study seeks to extend our knowledge of the prevalence of PIK3CA mutations in primary neuroblastomas and neuroblastoma cell lines. The authors performed a quite rigorous analysis of the PIK3CA mutation hot-spots but discovered only a two somatic mutations. Additionally, the authors investigated for PIK3CA, Hras1, Kras2 and Nras mutations in neuroblastomas arising in neuroblastoma-prone transgenic mice but no mutations were detected in any gene. These data suggest that activating mutations in the Ras/Raf-MAPK/PI3K signaling cascades occur infrequently in neuroblastoma.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
The study is well executed and described and no modifications are required.

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

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept without revision

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