Reviewer's report

Title: Over-Representation of Specific Regions of Chromosome 22 in Cells from Human Glioma Correlate with Resistance to 1,3-bis(2-chloroethyl)-1-nitrosourea

Version: 1 Date: 16 October 2005

Reviewer: Judith Jeuken

Reviewer's report:

General

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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)

Interesting paper on the involvement of chromosome 22 aberrations involved in therapy resistance. If some additional information could be provided the paper would become more straightforward. I realize that these experiments can not be performed anymore but I expect that (part of) them were already performed as controls included in the experimental set up (serial passaging without chem-treatment).

* The number of cases is rather small.
* It would be of great value to confirm in GBMs not treated with chemo that in such recurrences over-representation of (part of) chromosome 22 is not occuring.
* The analyzed cases also recieved RT and therefore it might be possible that this induced the #22 aberrations resulting in a growth advantage and overgrowing of the other tumor cells. In such a scenario an increase in #22 after serial passaging in the presence of chemo might not necessarially linked to chemo resistance. A parallel serial passaging without chemo would provide further information on this issue.

What next?: Accept after discretionary 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'