Reviewer's report

Title: Cross-Platform Expression Profiling Demonstrates that SV40 Small Tumor Antigen Activates Notch, Hedgehog, and Wnt Signaling in Human Cells

Version: 3 Date: 1 September 2005
Reviewer: Roel Nusse

Reviewer's report:

I find it hard to recommend this paper for publication. It makes 2 points:
1. The AB micro-array platform detects more differentially expressed genes than the Affymetrix one. This is perhaps useful but otherwise anecdotal and best published in a technical journal.

2. Genes belonging to the Wnt, Notch and Hh pathway are differentially expressed in SV40 transformed cells. Potentially interesting but there is no mechanistic follow up. Are these genes important/required for transformation? This is testable, in case of the Hh pathway, by blocking with small molecules (cyclopamin) and in the case of Wnt, by Dickkopf or Axin overexpression.

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes