Reviewer's report

Title: CD40L induces multidrug resistance to apoptosis in breast carcinoma and lymphoma cells through caspase independent and dependent pathways.

Version: 1 Date: 10 October 2005

Reviewer: Peter Daniel

Reviewer's report:

General

The authors included additional data that support their notion of CD40 ligand mediating a caspase-independent mode of cell death inhibition in carcinoma cells as opposed to lymphoma cells. They should, however, be aware that the enzyme assay employed to determine caspase-3 activity also measures caspase-7 activities as DEVD peptide is employed as substrate.

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

none.

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

Please modify caspase-3 to caspase-3/7 or DEVDase throughout the manuscript. The fact that the assays employed measures both caspase-3 and -7 activities should be shortly mentioned.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

none.

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.