Reviewer's report

Title: Sialyl Lewis x expression in canine malignant mammary tumours: correlation with clinicopathological features and E-Cadherin expression

Version: 2 Date: 16 April 2007

Reviewer: Juana Martin de las Mulas

Reviewer's report:

General
Pinho and co-workers have made a great job in the revision of the original manuscript, for which I congratulate them. All major compulsory revisions I made have been addressed and I agree with most of the changes made. However, I still think some discretionary revisions (see below) would improve further the work.

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)
The article need some language corrections before being published.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

1.- Histological examination of tumours (page 7, line 1).- Indicate that benign proliferative lesions found in the vicinity of tumluos were also classified according to the WHO classification.

2.- Page 13 (lines 2-5).- Add the number and histologic type of benign proliferative lesions analysed (benign tumours and dysplasias).

3.- Expression of sialyl Lewis x in canine mammary carcinomas (page 12, lines 21-23).- Indicate the real level of sLe x expression in the 2 cases of in situ carcinomas and the 2 cases of carcinoma in benign tumour. If the level of expression of sLe x was the lowest in the first stages of canine mammary carcinoma progression, then you could move this sentence to the Discussion section to support the role of sLe x in the progression of the disease.

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: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests