Reviewer’s report

Title: Expression of NDRG2 is down-regulated in high-risk adenomas and colorectal carcinoma

Version: 1 Date: 30 July 2007

Reviewer: Libo Yao

Reviewer’s report:

This is a well-conducted study analyzing NDRG2 mRNA level in clinical tumor samples. The authors provided solid evidence that NDRG2 mRNA levels were decreased both in high-risk colorectal adenoma and in colorectal carcinoma compared to normal colonic mucosa. Although the consistent results were reported in other cancers before, the relatively larger scale data were obtained and more clinical correlations were analyzed in this paper. Another new point is to suggest the down-regulation of NDRG2 expression occurs during the progression from adenoma to carcinoma. I have only a minor essential revision comment as follow:The authors mentioned that NDRG2 down-regulation correlates with the progression of dysplastic tissue to carcinoma. However, the data in Table 4 showed that the reduced NDRG2 mRNA level was only seen (statistically) in mild/moderate dysplasia group but not in severe dysplasia one. The further discussion maybe needed here

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: Acceptable

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