Reviewer’s report

Title: Nuclear and cytosolic overexpression of LASP-1 correlates with tumor size and nodal-positivity of human breast carcinoma

Version: 3 Date: 20 August 2007

Reviewer: ALFREDO FUSCO

Reviewer’s report:

General
In this manuscript the authors investigate, by an immunohistochemical assay, the expression of the LIM and SH3 protein (LASP-1) in a series of breast neoplasias. They find a cytosolic and nuclear staining (described here for the first time) in invasive carcinomas but not in fibroadenomas. Moreover, they find a correlation between LASP-1 expression and high tumor stage, and also the proliferation rate of the epidermal basal cells.

The results are interesting and quite novel. The experiments are performed with the appropriate controls.

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

The authors should better discuss the discrepancy between the RNA and protein data. They say that RNA overexpression does not necessarily correlate with an increase in protein level. However, in this case we have an opposite situation: the RNA expression is increased in 12% of the cases, whereas the LASP-1 protein is increased in 55% of the cases. Maybe posttranscriptional and posttranslational mechanisms (protein degradation etc) may be involved.

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

Discussion chapter: “about 55.4” : about should be deleted.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.