Reviewer's report

Title: Effects of liarozole fumarate (R85246) in combination with tamoxifen on N-methyl-N-nitrosourea (MNU)-induced mammary carcinoma and uterus in the rat model

Version: 1 Date: 14 August 2006

Reviewer: Vincent Njar

Reviewer's report:

General
N/A

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

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

This manuscript by Goss et al. describes clearly and thoroughly the effects of liarozole fumarate in combination with tamoxifen on N-methyl-N-nitrosourea (MNU)-induced mammary carcinoma and uterus in the rat model. The findings that liarozole did not decrease the anti-tumor effect of tamoxifen in contrast to the combination of tamoxifen with anastrazole (a pure aromatase inhibitor) and also the demonstration that liarozole is able to reduce undesirable uterotrophic effects of tamoxifen is very important. The results of this study are likely to provide the rationale for clinical studies of SERMs in combination with RAMBAs. The work should capture the interest of the wide breast cancer drug development and oncology audience, and it is timely.

I suggest a few changes:


2. Figure 1: The authors should indicate all average tumor volumes in the graph.

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