Reviewer's report

Title: Anti-tumor effect of bisphosphonate (YM529) on non-small cell lung cancer

Version: 7 Date: 5 January 2007

Reviewer: Takeshi Yuasa

Reviewer's report:

General
The authors have included additional data in response to my request in the last report. I believe the revised manuscript can now be published after minor revision.

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)

Minor points
The Rap1A antibody the authors used recognized only unprenylated Rap1A although Santa Cruz Biotechnologies named it only Rap1A antibody. Then this antibody is useful for monitoring the prenylation status. In order to let the readers better understand, please describe “goat polyclonal anti-unprenylated Rap1A antibody” in page 8 line 15 and “anti-unprenylated Rap1A antibody” in page 11, line 4.

Although authors demonstrated the YM529 inhibited the farnesylation and geranylgeranylation of the small G-protein and pERK1/2 in NSCLC cells, authors did not demonstrate any Ras-contribution for pERK pathway. The molecular target of YM529 remains unknown. Therefore, I recommend that the authors should revise the following sentence. Page 11, line 6
These results suggested that YM529 inhibited ERK1/2 pathway (not Ras-ERK1/2) via inhibition of farnesylation and/or geranylgeranylation of GTP-binding proteins.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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.