Reviewer’s report

Title: Stem cell abundant protein Nanog, Nucleostemin and Musashi1 highly expressed in malignant cervical epithelial cells

Version: 1 Date: 18 December 2007

Reviewer: Duk-Soo Bae

Reviewer’s report:

(Major compulsory Revisions)
1. The paper would benefit from being re-written with good english.

Methods:
2. There is no statement on the consent of patients.
3. The author said the semiquantitative scoring system was based on the percentage of positive cells and the stain intensity. However, there was no description on intensity explaining (0) ~ ++(3). In addition, the agreement between the 2 pathologists should be presented.

Results:
4. The staining sites should be presented (cytoplasm or nucleus) in the text.
5. In a report [Sandro et al. Am J Surg Pathol 2006;30:1613], Nanog showed nuclear staining. The author should describe more detail about this.
6. In Figure 1, D showed membranous staining, which differ from that of B and C. What is the reason?
7. Are there any correlations between the expressions of the three proteins?

(Discretionary Revisions)
8. Table 1 would be benefitted, if also presented as figures.
9. Advanced stage tumors were not included in the analysis of Table 2. The different expression between early stage tumor and advanced stage will have much more information. In addition, how was the recurrence and its correlation with the expressions.
10. There is no correlation between the expression of stem cell abundant proteins and differentiation of tumor in table 2. Can the author explain the reason?

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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