Reviewer's report

Title: Cross-linking of CD24 inhibits growth of MCF-7 breast cancer cells

Version: 6 Date: 9 October 2007

Reviewer: Glen Kristiansen

Reviewer's report:

General

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

The authors claim to have given all necessary information about antibody specificity on page 5. As a matter of fact, they have just stated, that this polyclonal antibody was raised against full length CD24 protein, but unfortunately this does not exclude unspecific binding of the resultant antibody. Unless this is resolved, it remains to be shown, if the inhibitory effect observed by the authors is only CD24 mediated. I am not sure, if I am being picky on this point of antibody specificity, but it would be nice to have further confirmatory experiments to harden the authors claim.

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

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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: 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.