Reviewer’s report

Title: Growth of human gastric cancer cells in nude mice is delayed by a ketogenic diet supplemented with omega-3 fatty acids and medium-chain triglycerides

Version: 3 Date: 26 February 2008

Reviewer: W Elaine Hardman

Reviewer’s report:

I applaud the authors for the careful review of this manuscript. It is greatly improved.

There are just a few other things.

1) It is not clear why glucose uptake of gastric carcinoma cells was compared to that of HUVEC cells. These cell types are not at all similar. If this is just the most normal cell line the authors had available maybe a comment should be made.

2) The results shown on graph 1D (glucose 5.6, lactate about .185 and .17) do not agree with the values in the text (glucose 5.6, lactate .216 and .175). It would be nice if the units on the graph and in the text were the same (either mg or micrograms). Additionally, it is not clear why the scale for the X-axis is reversed.

3) Refer to fig 3 in the center of the 'course of body weights and survival' paragraph instead of not until the end. It would be even better to make two paragraphs, one on body weight, one on survival.

The discussion is a little hard to follow at times, due to information on contrasting studies being presented. This information should be presented, try to clarify, if possible.

What next?: Accept after minor essential 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.