Reviewer’s report

Title: A Survey of CK8 Expression in Head and Neck Epithelia

Version: 1 Date: 5 July 2008

Reviewer: Alberto Gasparoni

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
1) Lacking hypothesis/es: what was/were the goal/s in doing immunohistochemistry?

Minor Essential Revisions
1) The analysis of CK8 expression in normal epithelia is not clear. There is no statistical analysis, and samples of normal epithelia include a variety of anatomical sites.
2) Results should follow hypothesis/es enunciated in introduction (example: first, expression in normal tissue; second, expression in tumor tissue; third, expression in isolated cells).
3) How was the weak/strong expression of CK8 evaluated? Were the two investigators calibrated? ("CK8high" although intuitive, is not defined throughout the article.)

Discretionary Revisions
1) Abstract: "primary" refers to tumors or tissues?
2) Discussion: any further step necessary (i.e., analysis of phosphorylated CK8)?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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 in relation to the paper reviewed.