Reviewer's report

Title: Effects of small interfering RNA targeting thymidylate synthase on survival of ACC3 cells from salivary adenoid cystic carcinoma

Version: 4 Date: 2 September 2008

Reviewer: Maria Zajac-Kaye

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
The paper by Shirasaki et al has been improved significantly, however, the authors did not fully addressed the issues from the first review.

There are two issues that were not address satisfactory:

1) The authors response to test additional cell lines was that it is difficult to obtain these cells. Submaxillary salivary gland carcinoma, HTB-41 can be obtained from ATCC. The authors may also try to write to labs that work with salivary gland tumor cell line and try to reproduce their results obtained with ACC3 cells.

2) The authors state in their response letter that they evaluated 2 different siRNAs and the effect on TS silencing and cell viability were almost identical. The authors should include these data in the manuscript.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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'