Reviewer's report

Title: Validation of putative housekeeping genes for gene expression studies in human hepatocellular carcinoma using real-time quantitative RT-PCR.

Version: 2 Date: 2 September 2008

Reviewer: Anders Stahlberg

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Major Compulsory Revisions

I have re-reviewed the paper by Cincinnati et al. I appreciate the updates of the manuscript. However, my major concern is still not changed. The authors are only looking at 6 different potential reference genes. For this to be an useful paper for other people working with gene expression in the same field, more genes should have been included, or this study should be a part of a larger cancer study using the data generated here. If the authors increased the number of genes analyzed (nothing else needs to be changed concerning the content) I would be more than happy to recommend it for publication.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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'