Reviewer's report

Title: NF-kappa B genes have a major role in Inflammatory Breast Cancer

Version: 1 Date: 26 July 2007

Reviewer: Muzaffer Cicek

Reviewer's report:

General

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MAJOR COMMENTS

1. It is not clear that RTQ-PCR data was enough to prove the main conclusions whether NF-kappa B regulated genes are good candidates for IBC. In order to do fair conclusion, author should also perform immunohistochemistry (IHC) of the up-regulated master genes (TNFAIP3/A20, SELE, COX2, CXCL12, CCND3 and IER3L) categorized in 6 groups in IBC to further support their results.

3. Author needs to explain why there is a huge range in mRNA level of the genes (such as PTGS2/COX2, GADD45B, CXCL1/GRO, NFKB1 IL15) in NIBC and (CXCL1/GRO1, TNFSF11/RANKL, CD48) in IBC samples.

2. Expression of some of the genes in mRNA level in tumor samples did not seem to show significantly up-regulated. Author should tone down the level of significance of the results. This also applies to results from metastases.
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: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.