Reviewer's report

Title: Tissue Factor/FVIIa Activates Bcl-2 and Prevents Doxorubicin-Induced Apoptosis in Neuroblastoma Cells

Version: 1 Date: 11 November 2007

Reviewer: Abdelhadi Rebbaa

Reviewer's report:

General
The manuscript by Fang J. et al., describes an interesting finding that TF can regulate cancer cell response to chemotherapy, through the up-regulation of cellular anti-apoptotic pathways. This is a straightforward mechanistic study confirming the observation made earlier by Versteeg HH et al., and further establishing the connection between signaling implicated in coagulation and those that control cellular response to chemotherapy.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

The data in Figure 4C indicate that the cytoplasmic domain of TF is not required for the activation of Stat5 and thus for the anti-apoptotic function of TF. This suggests that TF may recruit other transmembrane receptors (Cytokine receptors) which in turn initiate the signaling leading to enhanced activation of Stat5 and expression of Bcl-2. It will be helpful if the authors provide evidence (experimental data or at least previous bibliographic references) confirming the cross-talk between cytokine receptors and TF.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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.