Reviewer's report

Title: Alendronate Decreases Orthotopic PC-3 Prostate Tumor Growth and Metastasis to Prostate Draining Lymph Nodes in Nude Mice

Version: 1 Date: 14 June 2007
Reviewer: Olivier Oudar

Reviewer's report:

General
1) The authors investigated the effect of an aminobisphophonate (alendronate) on prostate tumor growth and metastasis. Alendronate opposes growth of orthotopical PC-3 tumors and decreases the size of metastases in lymph nodes in vivo. Moreover, the authors show that angiogenesis is inhibited by alendronate. The decrease of tumor growth is speculated to be due to an increase of cell apoptosis.
2) The paper is well written and clearly structured.
3) The introduction is clear and sets the context well and references are relevant.

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

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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)

4) In the results section it is mentioned that no metastases were found in others organs. This must be probably due to the short time of the experiment. Four weeks after PC-3 cells inoculation may be not sufficient as mentioned in the litterature to produce tumor growth AND metastasis big enough to be observed by histology. This would be explained or at least discussed.
5) The authors must specify how they proceeded to avoid counting the same cells twice since they did not use data processing method. Moreover the interval between the sections must be specified to be certain that the same cell is not recounted twice.
6) page 18 line 8 : "PC-3 cells and tumors express VEGF-C at a high level [34,36,37] as also shown in our study" this cannot be written so because in this study the level of VEGF-C in tumor has not been evaluated in this study. This must be modified.
7) Page 29 Figure 2 : "The

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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

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