Reviewer's report

Title: Distribution of immune cells in head and neck cancer: CD8+ T-cells and CD20+ B-cells in metastatic lymph nodes are associated with favourable outcome in patients with oro- and hypopharyngeal carcinoma

Version: 3 Date: 1 July 2009

Reviewer: Theresa Whiteside

Reviewer's report:

The authors have addressed point-by-point all of the concerns expressed in my review. They dealt very well with all of the comments, and have made appropriate changes in the text. In particular, the discussion is considerably strengthened. In terms of specific issues re Treg and FOXP3 expression in activate CD4+ T cells that do not have suppressor function, please see the commentary by Steven F. Ziegler in Eur. J. Immunol. 37:21-23, 2007.

This revised manuscript is now acceptable for publication.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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.'