Reviewer’s report

Title: The association between RCAS1 expression in laryngeal and pharyngeal cancer and its healthy stroma with cancer relapse

Version: 3 Date: 26 December 2008

Reviewer: Kenzo Sonoda

Reviewer’s report:

Comments:

The authors immunohistochemically investigated RCAS1 expression not only in pharyngeal and laryngeal cancer but also in its clear surgical margin in order to evaluate an involvement of RCAS1 in local cancer recurrence. RCAS1 was identified in all cancer tissues. Moreover, RCAS1 was detected even in clear surgical margin samples at lower level than cancer. Intriguingly, RCAS1 expression was significantly strong in clear surgical margins in case of cancer relapse. The authors concluded that immune cell suppression connecting with tumor RCAS1 expression might be important for cancer recurrence. So far, there was no report regarding RCAS1 expression in surgical margins, making the results of this work valuable. This manuscript is now acceptable for publication after revision.

(Major Compulsory Revisions)
No suggestions.

(Minor Essential Revisions)
No suggestions.

(Discretionary Revisions)
No suggestions.

That is all.

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.