Reviewer's report

Title: Expression of pS2 in prostate cancer correlates with grade and Chromogranin A expression but not with stage

Version: 1 Date: 2 October 2003

Reviewer: marc colombel

Reviewer's report:

General
This a retrospective study on the expression of pS2 and chromogranin A in localized prostate cancer. The correlation is significant for the expression of PS2 and stage.

Paper is well written, well referenced.

I agree with the authors, it is difficult to draw a conclusion since data are based on the analysis of only 10% of samples. I would suggest to verify the validity of the staining. May be the expression pS2 can be improved.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
- introduction: authors warns that the results will not be significant!!! why should I keep reading this paper then?

Minor Compulsory 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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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
- introduction: are they any evidence that neuro endocrine differentiation in localized disease is a pronostic factor? And if yes what are the studies that support that?
- authors did not use positive control
- Results there are no indication of the percentage of patients with expression of pS2 or CgA. Neither indication regarding the correlation with treatment, particularly regarding patients treated hormonally before treatment.

Validity of a 10% of patients expressing pS2 is difficult to admit since there is no positive control

What next?: Accept after minor compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

none