Reviewer's report

Title: Interstitial Cystitis Anti-Proliferative Factor (APF) as a Cell-Cycle Modulator

Version: 1 Date: 13 January 2004

Reviewer: eva M wojcik

Reviewer's report:

General
This is a very interesting study on an timely topic. The authors presented an interesting hypothesis for an etiology of this very enigmatic, though clinically significant, disorder. Although a very small number of cases were tested, the experiment was replicated five times.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
It would be beneficial if the abbreviation "NIDDK" was explained (first paragraph of the M&M section)

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

Space between "than" and "for" is missing (the last paragraph of the Results section)

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

The authors should clarify that in cytometric measurement they were evaluating "nuclei" not "cells". Some urothelial cells (umbrella cells or superficial cells) are bi- or multinucleated. In Feulgen stained material only nuclei will be visualized. Therfore, in the discription of DNA Cytometry, "single cell event" should be replaced with a "single nuclei event". Similar corrections should be done in the remaning of the manuscript.

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

Declaration of competing interests:

None