Reviewer's report

Title: Measurement of matrix metalloproteinase 9 mediated CO3 degradation fragment as marker for skin fibrosis

Version: 4 Date: 10 February 2011

Reviewer: Andrew Leask

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The paper is much more clear, and I think is quite useful. However, a issue still remains with the Western blot.

Major compulsory revisions
There is still no loading control for the Western blot on the new Figure 2. Thus the corresponding quantitation is inappropriate. The authors state that they used beta actin as a loading control. This control should be included in the Figure, and the densitometry recalculated relative to the loading control (ie simply looking at pixel intesity is inaccurate; pixel intensity should be adjusted relative to the loading control.

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'