Reviewer's report

Title: A Distal Region of the Human TGM1 Promoter Is Required for Expression in Transgenic Mice and Cultured Keratinocytes

Version: 1 Date: 24 October 2003

Reviewer: Elena Tasheva

Reviewer's report:

General

The paper by Phillips et al. provides further characterization of the regulatory elements in the human transglutaminase 1 (TGM1) promoter that are important for high level expression of this gene in transgenic mice and in cultured keratinocytes. A 2.5kb region of the human TGM1 promoter has been shown by others to confer tissue-specific expression in transgenic mice. Using different reporter constructs, the authors confirm these observations and demonstrate that a shorter promoter (1.6kb) is sufficient for appropriate expression in transgenic mice. In addition, detailed in vitro characterization of the minimum length promoter is provided. The methods are suitable and the results seem clear. The present manuscript adds to previous work from this and other groups and to the knowledge about tissue-specific transcriptional regulation.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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

Some typos corrections should be made.
Reference 29. replace regualtion with regulation

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

What next?: Accept after minor compulsory 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