Reviewer's report

Title: Prognostic impact of cd57, cd68, m-csf, csf-1r, Ki67 and TGF-beta in Soft Tissue Sarcomas

Version: 1 Date: 26 March 2012

Reviewer: Jose Vassallo

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MAJOR COMPULSORY REVISIONS

Background
1. There are no preliminary considerations about the markers used, with exception of Ki-67. This would be important to inform the readers about the reasons why the authors chose these and not other markers of immune response.

2. Specific comment: In the last paragraph, the authors refer to an article by Sorbye 2012 and to the reference #25 (2011). Are there two articles, or are they the same. If this is the case, only the number is sufficient.

Methods
1. Some details could have been summarized, in order to condense this section.

2. On the other hand, abbreviations like “CK, SMA, VIM” should be defined when used for the first time: cytokeratin, smooth muscle actin, vimentin, respectively.

3. Again, in the second paragraph the authors refer to an article by Sorbye 2012. Please, clarify (reference #25? Other not cited in the list of references?)

4. In the subsection “Immunohistochemistry” the authors refer to CD56, and not to CD57. Thereafter, scoring, results and discussion is made on CD57. Please, clarify.

Discussion
1. While two large paragraphs are dedicated to the role of CD57 in tumor immunity, few is commented on the most significant markers, M-CSF and TGF-beta. This should be readdressed, especially because the authors made a so strong statement in the last paragraph “This data may provide additional information to guide therapy after surgical resection”.

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.