Reviewer's report

**Title:** Immunophenotypic Identification of High-Risk Monoclonal Gammopathy of Undetermined Significance

**Version:** 2 **Date:** 10 November 2008

**Reviewer:** Dan Jones

**Reviewer's report:**

Major Compulsory Revisions

Recommend revising the two sentences below in the Abstract to eliminate the definitive conclusion (as suggested by Dr Johnsen) that CD19 is predictive of progression since the number of cases studied with progression (n = 2) does not really allow a statistical valid assessment of the predictive value. The study mainly demonstrates statistically significant immunophenotypic difference between plasma cells in MGUS as compared to PCM.

"In this study, we examined the immunophenotypic differences of plasma cells in MGUS and PCM and evaluated their utility in predicting disease progression"

"A higher relative proportion of CD19(+) plasma cells in MGUS is associated with a lower risk of disease progression."

**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