Reviewer’s report

**Title:** pRb2/p130 protein expression and RBL2 mutation analysis in Burkitt lymphoma from Uganda

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 18 February 2009

**Reviewer:** Mirentxu Santos Lafuente

**Reviewer’s report:**

Kalungi et al. analyze the expression of the pRb2 protein and mutations of the RBL2 gene in a series of 51 endemic cases of Burkitt lymphoma from Uganda. They determine the expression of pRb2 by immunohistochemistry and perform the mutation analysis –when possible- near the domain B of the gene. They report nuclear localization of pRb2 in the majority of the cases and find no mutations in the cases analyzed.

The question raised by the authors is correctly addressed, the approach is well suited, the data are homogeneous, consistent and clearly described. The findings are well discussed, supported by their data and that published by other authors. They reach a fine conclusion that adds additional complexity to our understanding of the role of Rb family in tumorigenesis. The manuscript is clearly written. In conclusion, they have done a thorough analysis that is suitable for publication in BMC Clinical pathology

**Minor points:**

Among the 14 cases selected for mutational analysis, the number of cases for each exon amplification is detailed, but are all the 14 cases properly covered for mutation analysis?. Please, clarify this.

**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