Reviewer’s report

Title: Dickkopf-1 is a potential novel mediator of cisplatin-refractoriness in non-small cell lung cancer

Version: 2 Date: 9 June 2015

Reviewer: Fredrik Jerhammar

Reviewer’s report:

Major compulsory revisions:
As pointed out in the first review, I find the discrepancy of the three microarray replicates an issue. The authors agree that it may be a concern, continuing to hypothesize that it might be due to expansion of different resistant clones. This is, however, not tested. It is an assumption. If more replicates had been done with similar variation, that assumption would have had stronger impact.

While DKK1 is shown to have statistically significant effects on clonogenic survival after cisplatin treatment (Figure 5D), the statistics behind this result needs to be clarified. What is the p-value of the decrease in clonogenic survival observed with only si1 treatment?

Minor essential revision
Title: Only cell lines have been tested. The title suggests that tumor samples have been tested. Also, protein levels of Dickkopf-1 is not addressed at all, should be changed to DKK1. "DKK1 is a potential mediator of non small cell lung cancer cell lines" is a title more in concordance with the major results.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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