Reviewer’s report

Title: Heparan sulfate proteoglycans undergo differential expression alterations in right sided colorectal cancer, depending on their metastatic character

Version: 2 Date: 21 April 2015

Reviewer: Jorge Filmus

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I am still concern about the use of qPCR to quantify expression levels in homogenized tissues.

In my previous review I raised the example of GPC1, and the authors have not addressed this example. At the RNA level GPC1 seems to be downregulated in the tumors. But immunostaining shows that the cells that produce the highest levels of GPC1 in the normal tissue are the neuroendocrine cells (Fig. 2H). Neuroendocrine cells are not present in the tumors, Is it possible that the downregulation at the mRNA levels in the tumors simply reflects the absence of neuroendocrine cells? In fact, the immunostaining of the malignant enterocytes in Fig.2J shows higher expression levels than the enterocytes in the normal colon. I think that it is very important that the authors discuss this issue.

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:

no competing interests.