Reviewer's report

Title: Prognostic significance of Traf2- and Nck- interacting kinase (TNIK) in colorectal cancer

Version: 2 Date: 22 June 2015

Reviewer: Simona Rossi

Reviewer's report:

Takahashi and Colleagues report interesting finding on CRC by expression profile data analysis. However some aspect still need to be elucidated.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1) 11 genes were reported to be associated with human malignacies, TNIK was selected, but the authors need to report the data analysis also for the other 10 genes. Also, candidates have been selected by having an higher expression when higher the prognostic risk, actually a suitable candidate can also have a lower risk when higher the expression, the weight will be negative at that point, but still these kind of candidates need to be assessed.

2) A patent has been filled about: "Inhibiting TNIK for treating colon cancer EP 2305717 A1 Inventors Li Vivian Sze Wing, Tokameh Mahmoudi, Johannes Carolus Clevers Applicant Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen

Authors should report also on this.

3) KM curves have been reported for the validation cohort, they should be reported also for the training cohort

Minor Essential Revisions

1) when reporting univariate and multivariate survival results, Hazard ratios and Confidence intervals should be reported along with pvalues

2) grade of differentiation: poor, well and moderate has been wrongly called histology

Minor Essential Revisions

Please avoid to write "marginal significance", when p>0.05 the result is simply non-significant.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
**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