Reviewer's report

Title: Overexpression of NIMA-related kinase 2 is associated with progression and poor prognosis of prostate cancer

Version: 4 Date: 11 June 2015

Reviewer: Michael Schweizer

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Additional comments regarding this manuscript are below.

Major Revisions:
None.

Minor Revisions:
1. In the introduction, please indicate that prospective validation of NEK2 as a biomarker is needed.

2. You still need to include more detail regarding how PSA recurrence was defined. What was the PSA threshold that was considered to represent a recurrence?

3. Can you provide justification for why the IRS score was used (e.g. a reference for this method)? I still think categorizing the percentage of positive cells into arbitrary groups could introduce bias. For instance, the last group combines all samples with >50% positive staining. There may be clinically meaningful differences between someone with 99% staining and 51% staining, but by this method they would all be lumped together.

4. Please provide the precise P-values. It is not sufficient to indicate that the P-value is <0.05 (see Fig 1 and Fig 2).

5. There are still a number of typos and grammatical errors. Please proof read the manuscript again.

6. For Fig 4a and 4b, please indicate the number of patients 'at risk' below the x-axis of each Kaplan-Meier curve.

7. In the discussion, you still need a reference to support the statement that prostate cancer affects 1 in 9 men.

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.