Reviewer's report

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

Version: 4  Date: 16 June 2015

Reviewer: Ronald Simon

Reviewer's report:

Dear Ms Hazel Joyce Delos Santos

Thank you for the opportunity to re-review the manuscript “Overexpression of NIMA-related kinase 2 is associated with progression and poor prognosis of prostate cancer” by Zeng et al.

When comparing the reply letter with the revised manuscript, I found that several points raised by both reviewers had not been addressed. Of note, some answers are detailed in the reply letter but not included in the revised manuscript.

These include the following points:

Reviewer 1:

2. Need to discuss possible limitations of using one cell lines for the study in the results and conclusions.

The authors state in the reply letter that they have addressed the issue of limitations in the results and in the discussion section. However, I cannot find any comments on this neither in the results nor in the discussion section

7. Definition of PSA recurrence

Again, the answer provided in the reply letter (detailed in the reply to reviewer 2, point 2) has not been transferred to the manuscript.

9. Were normal prostate epithelial cells microdissected before RNA analysis? Was here NEK2 staining present in non-cancerous prostate cell, which might have an impact on RNA analysis.

Once more, the authors “suggest” an answer in the reply letter, but I cannot find this in the discussion section. Also, the answer is not adequate – was it microdissected or not?

10. IHC analysis, fraction of negative / positive cases (see also Reviewer 2, point 3)

Again, revision is announced in the reply letter but I cannot find anything in the manuscript

In addition to all these points, the level of English language needs to be
massively improved.

In summary, it does not seem that the authors have properly addressed the issues raised by the reviewers. The manuscript is not acceptable at its current stage.

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**Quality of written English:** Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

**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