Reviewer’s report

Title: The precursor for nerve growth factor (proNGF) is not a serum or biopsy-rinse biomarker for thyroid cancer diagnosis

Version: 1 Date: 09 Sep 2019

Reviewer: Martin Read

Reviewer's report:

The authors have now addressed the majority of my concerns. I have a couple of minor revisions for new Figure 2B that the authors need to address. They are:

(i) In Table 2 the p-value given for serum proNGF (continuous) between hyperthyroid versus euthyroid hormone status is 0.002. However, the p-value provided in new Figure 2B is 0.02. Please can the authors clarify whether this is correct.

(ii) In Figure 2B the numerical range of the y-axis is from 0.25 to 32. It would be more appropriate if the y-axis ranged from 0 to 32 as the median value for serum proNGF measurements is zero.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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Yes

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