Reviewer’s report

Title: Altered expression of microRNAs in the myocardium of rats with acute myocardial infarction

Version: 2 Date: 19 January 2010

Reviewer: Jason E. Fish

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revision:
1) I am very confused by the real-time PCR validation of the differentially expressed microRNAs. The author’s state that they used Superscript to reverse transcribe the RNA and then used PCR primers (with an amplicon of <200 bp) to detect the microRNA. I do not understand how this technique could possibly be used to assess the levels of the microRNAs, which are about 21 nucleotides in length and would not be reverse transcribed by this method. Could the authors please explain how these experiments were performed in more detail and could they please include the primer sequences. This is a major issue that needs to be addressed.

Minor Essential Revision:
1) I believe that in the Methods section it should say >2-fold or < -2-fold change rather than <0.5-fold.

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:
I declare that I have no competing interests.