Reviewer’s report

Title: Secondhand smoke exposure toxicity accelerates age-related cardiac disease in old hamsters

Version: 4 Date: 19 November 2014

Reviewer: Xinbo Zhang

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have improved the manuscript. However, some comments were not fully addressed.

Major Compulsory Revisions responses:

2. The authors showed increased ratio of p-ERK1/2 and ERK1/2 in young treated hamsters and declined in aged hamsters. However, the total ERK1/2 in young treated hamsters is significantly higher than the others. It’s hard to see increased ratio p-ERK1/2 and ERK1/2 in young treated hamsters from the western blot. It’s the same with Figure 4: p-MEK5 and MEK5.

3. Figure 3C: Please check the original blot to confirm the lane number.

6. Table 1. Original data of BW (130.26±6.04 Vs 127.59±3.52) and HW (0.60±0.03 Vs 0.63±0.03) are required to confirm the significance.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.