Reviewer's report

Title: MYC, FBXW7 and TP53 copy number variation and expression in Gastric Cancer

Version: 2 Date: 21 March 2013

Reviewer: Yueyong Liu

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript is a revised version of previous submission. The authors improved the results, discussion and added zymography data to this manuscript. Due to the complexity of oncogene and tumor suppressor in the tumorigenesis, it’s hard to straighten out the relationship of MYC, FBXW7 and TP53 under several parameters including copy number, mRNA level and protein expression level. Even so this manuscript still brings to us lots of interesting information including the firstly reported deregulation of MYC (amplification) and FBXW7 (LOH) associated with lymph node metastasis and stage III-IV disease. The authors made great efforts in investigating gene status of MYC, FBXW7 and TP53 in three different levels in GC tumors and cancer cell lines which is potentially useful for the researchers in this related field. Based on the data presented, it is worthy of being published in BMC gastroenterology journal.

Minor concerns:

1. The authors added and showed the increased active MMP9 form in ACP02 cell line which is more invasive as compared to ACP02. Increased MMP9 and reduced FBXW7 level can promote cell motility. However, ACP2 showed impaired migration capability instead, please specify.

   b. line 2 in subtitle 2 of results: non-neoplastic instead of non-tissue
   c. line 10 in subtitle 4 of results: punctiform instead of puntiform
   d. the symbol in table2: age 50.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.