Reviewer's report

**Title:** TNF-alpha and LPA promote synergistic expression of COX-2 in human colonic myofibroblasts: role of LPA-mediated transactivation of upregulated EGFR

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 4 October 2012

**Reviewer:** ling xu

**Reviewer's report:**

1. The author investigated whether EGFR signaling plays a role in the synergistic COX-2 expression induced by LPA and TNF-α. 18Co cells were treated with TNF-α and LPA. EGFR and COX-2 protein expression, Y1068 phosphorylation, and p42/44 MAPK phosphorylation were assessed by Western Blot. The results were described by 5 steps. Design of this experiment is reasonable. Results explained clearly.

2. The author has done pre-research “TNF-alpha induces upregulation of EGFR expression and signaling in human colonic myofibroblasts. Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver Physiol, 302(8):G805-814.” This manuscript was expressed a further study. The data and graph were explained clearly. The writing of manuscript is acceptable.

3. The method of research is only done by Western Blot. It will be better that adding the detection in the level of gene in this study.

**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