Reviewer's report

Title: Modulations of Cell Cycle Checkpoints in HCV Associated Disease

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Reviewer: Lei Wan

Reviewer's report:

The authors describes that the HCV infection could influence the expression levels of HCV infected hepatocytes. The manuscript is interesting and potentially important in the pathogenesis of HCV infection. However, there are some points should be addressed before it can be accept for publication.

1. The authors performed a general screening on the cell cycle associated genes and some of the genes were up or down-regulated significantly. As the mRNA expression levels are not always associated with the protein expression levels and the proteins are the most important part in exerting the biological functions, you should confirm the protein expression levels on those genes.

2. It is not clear that why you perform the IHC only on p15 and p27. mRNA expression levels are higher in GADD45A, RAD1 and HUS1.

3. Please put the normal control (Figure1) in the main document of manuscript, it is hard for readers to follow. And according to the data, the expression levels of p15 and p27 are all up-regulated both in early and advanced HCV infection. Why can't we find significant difference between advanced and normal on p27. Moreover, p15 should express at higher level in advanced than early. I do not see any correlation between the IHC data and the mRNA expression data.

4. In figure 3, the protein concentrations are not the same. You should perform it again.

5. The introduction and discussion sections are too long and contains too much information. It is very hard to follow.

6. There many grammer errors and typos throughout the manuscript. You should find a native English speaker to edit your manuscript.

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

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.