Reviewer's report

Title: Modulations of Cell Cycle Checkpoints in HCV Associated Disease

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Reviewer: Makoto Hijikata

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The Authors of this Manuscript studied the alterations in cell cycle genes expression with respect to early and advanced disease of chronic HCV infection. For that they used microarray analysis for the expression of different mRNA isolated from patients' liver biopsies, and confirmed by measuring the protein expression of four differentially expressed genes (p15, p27, KNTE1 and MAD2L1). They showed that the expression of p27 and KNTE1 were negatively correlated with the degree of liver fibrosis, suggesting its role in HCC development.

The manuscript is well written, the data showed are necessary to confirm previous in vitro data and those found in HCC patients.

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'