Reviewer's report

Title: The absence of Dystrophin Brain Isoform Expression in Healthy Human Heart Ventricles Explains the Pathogenesis of 5' X-Linked Dilated Cardiomyopathy

Version: 1 Date: 30 January 2012

Reviewer: Madhu Khullar

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory revision:

1. Number of patients is very low (n=2) only for any conclusion. The whole inference is based on just two skeletal muscle samples from DCM patients; this needs to be validated in b) in more samples from CM patients
2. The study used a commercial source of heart RNA; it needs to be replicated/validated in heart tissue where the demographics of source are known
3. Why have authors carried out methylation studies as their own review of literature (given in discussion) does not support this regulatory mechanism. Moreover, Methylation study is more of observational than conclusive
4. Authors propose that de-silencing of B form in heart can combat the disease and will be good therapeutics. There is no supportive data to indicate that B form is silenced.
5. Fig. 1 is too complex, part of it are not needed (a,b,c).

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