Reviewer's report

**Title:** Inhibition of metastasis, angiogenesis, and tumor growth by Chinese herbal cocktail Tien-Hsien Liquid

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 5 February 2010

**Reviewer:** Yew Hoong Cheah

**Reviewer’s report:**

The manuscript entitled "Inhibition of metastasis, angiogenesis, and tumor growth by Chinese herbal cocktail Tien-Hsien liquid" is well and comprehensively written. The manuscript described the potential of a Chinese herbal cocktail as cancer therapeutic agent taking into account its anti-metastasis, anti-angiogenesis, anti-tumor activity. However, the authors should consider the following notes to make the paper more scientifically sounds:

**Major Compulsory Revisions**

- Could the authors explained/justify the different dosage being used for "pulmonary metastasis assay" (200 ul solely THL) and "MDA-MB-231 breast cancer xenograft model" (1:1 v/v dilution)? Is there any optimization of doses being done prior to the experiment.

- In the grouping of animal in breast cancer xenograft model (page10/paragraph3/line6), the reviewer would like to why the mice were divided based on the body weight but not the starting tumor volume?

- Wound healing assay procedures should be discussed in the Methodology not in the Results section

**Minor Essential Revisions**

- please provide reference for the statement "It is safe for cancer patients with no adverse effect" page 5;paragraph 3;line 8

- Under the subtitle "Human MDA-MB-231 breast cancer xenograft model", line 6 the word 'boy' should be body

- Under the subtitle "THL inhibits the growth of human MDA-MB-231 breast cancer xenografts in SCID mice’ line 3 the word 'latter' should be 'later'

- page 20; paragraph 1; line 8. 'Scondly' should be 'Secondly'

**Discretionary Revisions**

- Please mention whether the animal studies conducted is being approved by the ethical committe or the animal care committee

- Could the authors explained the both flanks injection of MDA-MB-231 cells in the xenograft model as this will likely to induce multi tumor growth in the flanks
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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