Reviewer's report

Title: Grp78 promotes the invasion of hepatocellular carcinoma

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Reviewer: Weizhong Wu

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In this study, the authors give some evidences that Glucose regulated protein 78 (Grp78) regulate tumor invasion and metastasis of HCC from clinical investigation, in vitro and in vivo experimental studies. Also the authors find that FAK/RhoA/Rock signaling pathway may be involved in the process of Grp78 metastatic regulation. However, there are still some issues needed be clarified.

1. The diagnostic criteria for differentiation of HCC should be described in detail.
2. List all clinicopathologic features of 44 HCC patients enrolled in this study and analyze the correlation of Grp78 levels and tumor venous invasion, intrahepatic metastasis and microvascular invasion if possible.
3. List the sources of important materials such as antibodies.
4. Improve English language and correct many solecisms in the manuscript.
5. Re-plot the figures, change the titles of X or/and Y axis and add p value when it is significant.
6. Describe the role of dominant negative Rock pasmid KDIA in HCC invasion and metastasis, and explain possible reasons that knockdown of Grp78 expression activates endogenous Rock activity in the present posture of dominant negative Rock pasmid.
7. All data come from one cell line, it is suggested to conduct the functional studies in a greater number of HCC cell lines#

Dr. Weizhong Wu

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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