Reviewer’s report

Title: Pentastatin-1, a collagen IV derived 20-mer peptide, suppresses tumor growth in a small cell lung cancer xenograft model

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Reviewer: Rajkumar Savai

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript by Koskimaki et al investigates role of a collagen IV derived 20 mer peptide, Pentastatin-1 on tumor growth and angiogenesis. In general this is a well written manuscript; the data presented support the interpretation of the authors.

Comments
1. I would like to ask the authors to do BrdU or thymidine incorporation assay to show Pentastatin-1 effects on proliferation in NCI-H82 small cell lung cancer cells and mouse 3T3 fibroblast cells, in addition to viability assay using WST-1 reagent.
2. In Figure 3A - 5mg or 10mg Pentastatin-1 peptide treatment resulted in tumor size reduction dose dependently in vivo. However, In Figure 4B CD-31 staining quantification showed no differences in vascularization. I would strongly suggest checking the effects of Pentastatin-1 on proliferation and apoptosis in vivo by immunostainings on tumor tissues.

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’