Reviewer's report

Title: NF-kappaB targeting by way of IKK inhibition sensitizes lung cancer cells to adenovirus delivery of TRAIL

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Reviewer: Alice Mui

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This is a technically sound study showing that TRAIL resistance in the lung carcinoma cell line A549 cells can be overcome by inhibiting IKK using a dominant negative IKK (IKKbetaKA). These findings are not surprising since: (1) inhibiting IKK has been shown to overcome TRAIL resistance in other cancers, and (2) the authors themselves have previously shown that IKKbetaKA can overcome TNF resistance in the same cell line.

However the area of overcoming TRAIL resistance in lung cancer is an area of active investigation and the results in the current paper does provide confirmatory data supporting the expected response.

Minor comment: The authors may consider writing a few lines describing how IKKbetaKA (and IKBalphaSR mentioned in 3rd paragraph of the Results section) interferes with endogenous IKKbeta function and NFkB signalling.

The "a" is missing from the word death in the first line of the Fig legend.

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.