Reviewer’s report

Title: Functional significance of hepaCAM gene in bladder cancer

Version: 1 Date: 6 August 2009

Reviewer: Balraj Mittal

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The manuscript entitled “Functional significance of hepaCAM gene in bladder cancer” established the role of hepaCAM in transitional cell carcinoma of bladder (TCCB). The experimental design of the study is well planned and results are discussed properly, however some revisions are needs to be done.

Major compulsory revision

1. Results of the semiquantitative RT-PCR must be given in the form of representative gel picture as well as in the form of bar diagram showing error bars

2. Authors have mentioned in the introduction that the cytoplasmic domain of the hepaCAM is essential for the physiological and biological characteristics of hepaCAM, however they concluded that the extracellular domain of hepaCAM is essential to its functions. These two contrasting statements should be discussed properly in the discussion section

Minor compulsory revision

1. Reference should be added to various statements in Introduction

2. The first paragraph of discussion contains the introductory part of the study so it should be shifted to introduction section

3. Minor spelling and grammatical mistakes should be checked.

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'