Reviewer's report

Title: Attenuated expression of histamine receptor H4 in colorectal cancers: A potential correlation with histamine-mediated tumor growth

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Reviewer: Elke Schneider

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I am still puzzled by the rational underlying the study of Fang et al. Do the authors suggest that the H4R is constitutively active in normal cells to hamper tumoral transformation by putting a brake to excessive cell cycling? I am not sure that H4R-transfected cells provide a clue to this question. However, the major compulsory revisions were performed, and technically speaking the findings seem to be sound, even though their physiological relevance remains doubtful. Hence, I only ask for dicretionary revisions concerning the english language, which is sometimes confusing. For instance in the result section "HRH4 stimulation promoted the 5-FU-induced cell apoptosis" rather than "HRH4 stimulation increased the 5-FU-induced cell apoptosis" or "Colorectal cancer is the uncontrolled growth of malignant cells" rather than "Colorectal cancer results from the uncontrolled growth of malignant cells". I cannot detail all the passages that would need revision, but trust the authors that they will make the required changes with the help of a native speaker.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.