Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Characterization of human gastric carcinoma-related methylation of 9 miR CpG islands and repression of their expressions in vitro and in vivo

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**Reviewer:** Qiong Wu

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The paper by Yantao Du and colleagues advances the idea that in gastric cancer miR-210 methylation correlated with H. pylori infection. miR-9-1 methylation may be a GC-specific event and that methylation of miR CpG islands significantly down-regulates their transcription regularly. The concept is interesting but under-supported by the data presented in this paper. The following points reduce my enthusiasm to recommend this paper for publication in BMC Cancer.

Specific points:

1) Firstly, there seems no standard deviation among the histograms in the figures. Statistics should be showed basically with mean±SD, and also should be represented in the figures.

2) There is no strong evidence to show that the 9 microRNAs used for analyzing the methylation status were representative. Maybe some microRNAs that not chosen by the authors are more representative than the microRNAs used by the authors.

3) The paper uses proper English but is highly unpolished: there are many unusual phrases and unconventional aspects to the presentation and the text should be extensively edited for submission.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

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

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests