Reviewer's report

**Title**: Downregulation of Cyclophilin A by siRNA diminishes non-small cell lung cancer cell growth and metastasis via the regulation of matrix metallopeptidase 9

**Version**: 7  **Date**: 11 September 2012

**Reviewer**: Giovanni Luca Beretta

**Reviewer's report:**

In the revised version of the manuscript entitled “Downregulation of Cyclophilin A by siRNA diminishes non-small cell lung cancer cell growth and metastasis via the regulation of matrix metallopeptidase 9” Zhe Qian and co-workers addressed all the questions raised.

As regard the Major compulsory revisions, the authors considered the use of compound 239836 as possible small molecule to inhibit the activity of CypA. The data concerning the cell growth and the MMP9 activity inhibition obtained treating the cells with 239836 correlated with the results reported using siRNA. As requested, they also performed Western blot assay to evaluate the expression of signaling molecules and they found that the silencing of CypA deregulates the phosphorylation of ERK1/2 and p38 but not JAK2 and STAT5. Moreover, the authors also clarified the effect on apoptosis after the silencing of CypA and, by using protein-protein interactions prediction database, the lack of a direct interaction between CypA and MMP9.

The minor essential revisions have been considered.

In the revised version the manuscript is acceptable for publication.

**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