Reviewer’s report

Title: miR-17-5p targets the p300/CBP-associated factor and modulates androgen receptor transcriptional activity in cultured prostate cancer cells

Version: 2 Date: 27 July 2012

Reviewer: Longgui Wang

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Manuscript 1984867920629801, Gong, et al., titled “miR-17-5p targets the p300/CBP-associated factor and modulates androgen receptor transcriptional activity in cultured prostate cancer cells”

This revised manuscript has enhanced readability, and more focused, while explanations and modifications in response to reviewers’ comments are acceptable. Thus, this reviewer believes that publication of this revised manuscript will be interested in the related field. However, there are a few minor issues still need to be addressed before it is accepted for publication:

1. The inconsistency in the expression profile of miR-17 between in vivo and in vitro attenuates the importance of this microRNA in prostate cancer, in particular the conclusion that “miR-17-5p could be a target for therapeutic intervention” is questionable.

2. In Figure 2D, authors stated that knockdown of PCAF by the PCAF siRNA partially abolished DHT-induced PSA luciferase activity. However, it seems that treatment of PCAF siRNA almost abolished all DHT-induced PSA luciferase activity, which needs to be reexamined.

3. Since the level of miR17 is low in LNCaP cells (Fig 3C), it seems inadequate to use this cell model to study effects of anti-miR-17 on AR signaling.

Overall, the manuscript is acceptable for publication in the BMC Cancer if adequate reversions are made.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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