Reviewer's report

Title: FOXO/TXNIP pathway is involved in the suppression of hepatocellular carcinoma growth by glutamate antagonist MK-801

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Reviewer: zheng hua-chuan

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Yamaguchi et al. investigated the role of FOXO/TXNIP pathway in the suppression of hepatocellular carcinoma growth by glutamate antagonist MK-801. It was found that altered expression levels of FOXO target genes such as cyclin D1 and p27 may contribute to the inhibition of G1/S cell cycle transition. Induction of the tumor suppressor gene TXNIP plays an important role in the growth inhibition by MK801.

The paper has been scientifically designed, innovative and well written, which makes it available published in BMC cancer.

The minor comment:

1) Please give the sequences of primers and probes for Taqman real-time PCR.
2) It is better to determined the p-FOXO to interact with TXNIP promoter in HCC cell if possible. EMSA or Chip
3) Please confirm the subcellular distribution of p-FOXO or some cycle-related proteins in HCC cells by immunofluorescence.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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:

No