Reviewer's report

Title: Methyl jasmonate abolishes the migration, invasion and angiogenesis of gastric cancer cells through down-regulation of matrix metalloproteinase 14

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Reviewer: Chenggang Jiang

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In the manuscript “Methyl jasmonate abolishes the migration, invasion and angiogenesis of gastric cancer cells through down-regulation of matrix metalloproteinase 14” the authors, Liduan Zheng et al studied role of sub-cytotoxic methyl jasmonate abolish the migration, invasion and angiogenesis of gastric cancer cells. The authors concluded Sub-cytotoxic MJ attenuates the MMP-14 expression via decreasing the Sp1 expression and binding on MMP-14 promoter, thus inhibiting the migration, invasion and angiogenesis of gastric cancer cells. It is an interesting manuscript. It is well written and organized.

Major compulsory revision

Based on Pearson’s coefficient correlation (Fig 5C) that has been built utilizing all the 20 patients utilized for the study. The authors conclude that there was a positive correlation between Sp1 protein and MMP-14 transcript levels in gastric cancer tissues. I am not myself and expert in the field of statistical analysis, however justification should be provided whether the number of patients utilized is adequate to draw this type of conclusion and eventually increase the number of subjects analyzed accordingly.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. In Fig 1C, the authors should give the cell picture of “Scratch migration assay” such as Fig 1D and E. This might be more convincing.
2. In page 3 line 2, “Gastric cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths worldwide [1].” is a wrong statement. Please refer to 2011 cancer statistics.

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.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests