Reviewer's report

Title: Norcantharidin inhibits tumor growth and vasculogenic mimicry of human gallbladder carcinomas by suppression of the PI3-K/MMPs/Ln-5#2 signaling pathway

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Reviewer: SONIA MOLINA-PINELO

Reviewer's report:

Norcantharidin inhibits tumor growth and vasculogenic mimicry of human gallbladder carcinomas by suppression of the PI3-K/MMPs/Ln-5#2 signaling pathway.

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Recently, this group has analyzed the role of vasculogenic in human gallbladder carcinomas (in vitro and in vivo). In addition, in the same work, they demonstrated that PI3K/MMPs/Ln-5#2 and EphA2/FAK/Paxillin signaling pathways could act in a coordinated manner in vasculogenic mimicry of human gallbladder carcinoma. This work has been published in Int J Oncol 2013;42:2103-15 (Contribution of the PI3K/MMPs/Ln-5#2 and EphA2/FAK/Paxillin signaling pathways to tumor growth and vasculogenic mimicry of gallbladder carcinomas). In the manuscript submitted to BMC cancer, the authors add to their previous study that Norcantharidin inhibits tumor growth and vasculogenic mimicry of human gallbladder carcinomas by suppression of the PI3K/MMPs/Ln-5#2 signaling pathway. I find that the proposed work does not contribute significantly to the field.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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