Reviewer’s report

Title: Study of chemoprevention of asiaticoside on rats and tumor cells

Version: 4 Date: 6 December 2013

Reviewer: Siqing Fu

Reviewer’s report:

Congratulate the authors on their significant efforts to conduct this in vivo study on natural product asiaticoside on chemoprevention for cancer development. Please address the following concerns.

Major concerns:
1. On page 21, the authors stated that "no effect on other cell lines except MCF7 cells". Please provide raw data to support your statement.

2. Please further discuss Figure 1. It seems that these animal models cannot lead to any conclusion on chemoprevention.

3. As in Figures 3 and 4: please explain mechanisms for the linear dose-dependent response curve, and provide data to use asiaticoside at 20, 40 and 80 microM.

4. The data in Figure 5 seems no difference at all. No dose dependent effects are noted.

5. In Figures 7 and 8, three groups should have tumor volumes. It seems that asiaticoside stimulate tumor progression since group II is a positive control without the treatment with asiaticoside.

Minor concerns.
1. Please short materials and methods significantly.

2. represent the results according to your intention to address your hypothesis.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

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