Reviewer's report

Title: MicroRNA-27a promotes proliferation and suppresses apoptosis by targeting PLK2 in laryngeal carcinoma

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Reviewer: Nijiro Nohata

Reviewer's report:

The authors of this paper demonstrate the role of miR-27a in LSCC. They showed that miR-27a regulates cell apoptosis and proliferation by targeting PLK2 gene. In general, the studies are interesting, and data are sound. However, I have some concerns and suggestions.

[Major Compulsory Revisions]
If the authors emphasize the significance of dysregulation of miR-27a and PLK2 in LSCC, they should analyze the down-regulation of PLK2 in clinical samples of LSCC (for example, IHC). If impossible, they should clearly state the limitation that they could not find the downregulation of PLK2 expression in LSCC. They might mention about the indication of down-regulation of PLK2 in LSCC or HNSCC from any other articles in discussion.

[Minor Essential Revisions]
In discussion, the authors mistakenly used 'miR-24a' with 'miR-27a' in several times. For example, 'miR-24a itself and silence of PLK2...'. etc. They need to correct them.
In Fig1D, in X-axis, what do 'T' and 'R' indicate?
In Fig2B, 'mir-27a mimics' should be 'miR-27a mimics'. (r->R)
In Fig3A, 'Has-miR-27a' is mistake with 'Hsa-miR-27a'?, and its sequences are not shown.
In Fig4E and 4F, the result overlaped with Fig2D and 2F, respectively. the images and bars of 'miR-27a inhibitor' and 'miR-27a mimics' might be omitted.

[Discretionary Revisions]
Fig1A, 1B, 3B might be supplemental figures.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.