Reviewer’s report

Title:The expression of microRNA-375 in plasma and tissue is matched in human colorectal cancer

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Reviewer:Shuhong Luo

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Comments to authors:

Xu et al presents data to show that the down-regulation of miR-375 in plasma and tissue is matched in CRC. Based on this, authors stated that miR-375 is a potential tissue biomarker. The ROC analysis shows the diagnostic value of miR-375. The function of miR-375 is estimated by GO analysis and KEGG. Overall the works seem to be important and the manuscript is interesting, well described. Here some comments will benefit the manuscript.

Major points:

1. The major weakness of this manuscript is not addressed the molecular mechanism of mir-375. The study of function of mir-375 will benefit the manuscript.

2. There are many reports to identify mir-375, 150, 206, 125b and 126 (See reference 20-31). The novelty of the present study should be discussed.

Minor comments:

1# In the validation phrase, five miRNAs were chosen for further validation. Why? This should be discussed.

2# Line 68, Page 3. Authors should add the P value of correlations between plasma and values after r value.

3# There are numerous databases to predict the miRNAs targeted gene, why did you choose these four databases? This should be discussed.

4# Line 246, Page 8. The statistic method expressed in wrong words, the ‘Mann Whitney’ should be ‘Mann Whitney U’. Which statistic algorithm of authors to calculated ROC value is not shown in the manuscript? Another, ‘p’ or ‘P’ should be in a consistent manner.

5# In vitro analysis and validation should be performed to confirm the target genes.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.