Reviewer's report

Title: High Mobility Group A1 Protein Expression Reduces the Sensitivity of Colon and Thyroid Cancer Cells to Antineoplastic Drugs

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Reviewer: Inmaculada Ibañez de Caceres

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In the present manuscript, the authors study the relation between the expression of HMGA1 and chemoresistance to 5-Fluoracil, Doxorubicin, cetuximab and HDAC inhibitor LBH589 in paired GEO cetuximab-sensitive/resistant colon carcinoma cells and SW48 cells. In addition, authors study its role in FRO cells, derived from human thyroid carcinoma. The results indicate that silencing of HMGA1 may inhibit the DNA damage repair pathways and cell survival signals, increasing that way cell sensitivity to the different agents tested.

The authors present an article of importance in its field, centered in “in vitro” assays. This manuscript reflects the necessity to interrogate through experimental approaches, the role of novel potential therapeutic agents regulating specific cellular pathways prior to a translational approach with patients samples. The article is well written and discussed, the introduction is complete and the methods used are the appropriate.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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 no competing interest in relation to the manuscript.