Reviewer's report

Title: Role of intracellular and extracellular annexin A1 in migration and invasion of human pancreatic carcinoma cells

Version: 1 Date: 24 October 2014

Reviewer: Sumathi Sankaran-Walters

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Major Compulsory revisions

Introduction:
1. The terms recurrence and metastasis are used interchangeably. Please be specific on your intention. Additionally there is no distinction made between carcinogenesis and progression, PC development and PC progression. Please clarify.
2. Please include a hypothesis for the study. It is mentioned that "ANXA1 should be considered as a novel therapy", This study is not designed to answer this question and can be mentioned in the discussion
3. Can the data in Figures 1A, 2A and 2D be quantitated to lend itself to statistical analysis?
4. Please provide statistical analysis of figure 1C and ID
5. In the results section please elaborate on the statistical methods used for each result.
6. Is there a dose response to ANXA1 in all the analyses performed? If so is there a minimum and maximum effective level.
7. What is the difference between the MIA PaCa2 and PANC1 cell lines to produce differential results in Figure 3 and 4?
8. Does ANXA1 exist as splice variants?
9. Is there evidence to suggest that the secreted form of ANXA1 interacts with cellular receptors or is taken into cells to produce an effect?
10. In figure 4, why was qualitative PCR used and not quantitative? Can both be provided?

Discretionary

1. It would be interesting to measure the ANXA1 levels in patients with PC and correlate the progression and/or metastatic rate to ANXA1 expression
2. It would raise the level of this manuscript if you could measure the ANXA1 cellular localization and level in the primary tumors and/or metastasis in patients with PC

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

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