Reviewer's report

Title: SSeCKS/Gravin/AKAP12 Reprograms Proliferative/Angiogenic Gene Expression During Suppression of v-Src-Induced Oncogenesis

Version: 2 Date: 30 January 2006

Reviewer: David Foster

Reviewer's report:

General

Title: SSeCKS/Gravin/AKAP12 reprograms proliferative/angiogenic gene expression during suppression of v-Src-induced oncogenesis

Authors: Liu and Gelman

Summary: The authors previously demonstrated that SSeCKS, which is down-regulated in several transformed and tumor cells, suppressed v-Src transformation without affecting the kinase activity. This previous study suggested that the effect of SSeCKS was downstream of v-Src. To investigate this further, they have undertaken an analysis of gene expression exploiting cDNA microarrays. They report that SSeCKS suppresses the expression of several genes induced by v-Src that are related to proliferation and angiogenesis.

Comments: This is a straightforward extension of previous work from this group. They have generated data that will be of interest to those studying the role of Src and SSeCKS in transformation and tumorigenesis. The weakness of the report is that the data are only correlative and the supposition that SSeCKS reprograms proliferative and angiogenic gene expression over-interprets the impact of the work.

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

None

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Minor Points:

Figure 1b – Src protein is up in HT29 cells relative to HCT116 – the activity – as measured by Y416 phosphorylation is not elevated if one normalizes for total Src protein.

Figure 2b does not reveal the “significant” increases in expression of the genes shown with the exception of HMGA2. The increases are very marginal.

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.