Reviewer’s report

Title: Identification of a potent herbal molecule for the treatment of breast cancer

Version: 1 Date: 20 August 2008

Reviewer: Shrikant Anant

Reviewer’s report:

This manuscript is focused on determining the anti-cancer effect of PDBD, a natural compound on Estrogen receptor positive and estrogen receptor negative breast cancer. It is a novel study that focuses on mechanistic action of the compound, PDBD, further evaluation of which is validated. However, there are a few concerns that can be easily addressed.

Minor Revision

1. In Figure 4A, the authors have shown p-Akt downregulation in breast cancer cells; however it would be better if they are able to show whether PDBD directly targets Akt or its upstream event, PI3 kinase.

Discretionary Revisions

1. Figure 5D, an appropriate loading control such as Histone H3 for the nuclear extracts should be included.

2. Figure 6C couldbe presented more clearly, the figure looks congested.

3. In the manuscript, some sentences could be reconstructed so as to make them more descriptive and also minor grammatical errors need correction.

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 that I have no competing interests.