Reviewer’s report

Title: Abalone visceral extracts inhibit tumor growth and metastasis by modulating Cox-2 levels and CD8+ T cell activity

Version: 1 Date: 26 May 2010

Reviewer: valsala haridas

Reviewer’s report:

In the work under review, Gu Lee etal have demonstrated that Abalone visceral extracts inhibit tumor growth and metastasis by modulating the CD8+ T cell activity. The data presented is interesting and provides an understanding of how these extracts work. The manuscript is well written. However, the following issues need to be addressed

Major Compulsory Revisions:
1. The authors have shown a decrease in the levels of Cox-2, but an increase in TNF-alpha#in#Abalone extract treated mice. Since TNF-alpha is a known inducer of Cox-2, and thereby inflammation, the authors should provide an explanation for this in the discussion.

2. The authors should describe the treatment of animals with the Abalone extracts in greater detail. How were the animals given the extracts (in water or with the chow), and how often were they fed? Was body weight of the animals taken into account while giving the 5mg/dose

Minor essential Revisions:
1. In the methods, Proliferation assay, line 3, please change "cultured under none or stimulation" to "cultured in the presence or absence of stimulation".

Discretionary revisions:
1. In describing the JAM test, the authors need to specify if the radioactivity was measured in the supernatant or the effector cell pellet.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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