Reviewer’s report

Title: Curcumin activates the podocyte p38MAPK-HSP25 pathway in vitro but does not attenuate streptozotocin-induced diabetic nephropathy in vivo

Version: 2 Date: 6 October 2010

Reviewer: Alaaeldin Hamza

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Comments for author
1-1/2 of paper are recycled from Tikoo et al (2008), paper entitled (Change in post-translational modifications of histone H3, heat-shock protein-27 and MAP kinase p38 expression by curcumin in streptozotocin-induced type I diabetic nephropathy), but on unsuitable animal model.

2- A significant amount of paper focus on the monitor of urinary curcuminoid and its renal pharmacodynamics effect. The new material in the paper describes how the authors confirmed the presence of urinary curcuminoid.

3- The paper is long. What I have in front of me is a long text in a very bland format. The document needs considerable additions to make it readable. In results and discussion I wondered about the need for 11 papers in this 37-page report.

4- Dose selection is doubtful.

5- The document needs careful proofreading and copy-editing.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.