Reviewer's report

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

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Reviewer: Kulbhushan Tikoo

Reviewer's report:

1) If the authors could not perform the western blotting for p38 and hsp25 in normal control animals for figure 6 due to funding issues, the authors should give some earlier references comparing the in vivo changes in these protein levels between control and diabetic mice in results for easily evaluating the effect of curcumin administration in Stz-DM mice.

2) The authors should mention the effect of curcumin in increasing urinary 12-HETE/cr excretion in vivo at higher doses in discussion.

3) Even though the numbers of animals in each group are different, the authors should write the number of animals in each group in brackets at respective positions.