Reviewer's report

Title: Suppression of low-density lipoprotein oxidation, vascular smooth muscle cell proliferation and migration by a herbal extract of Radix Astragali, Radix Codonopsis and Cortex Lycii

Version: 1 Date: 19 September 2010

Reviewer: hoyoung choi

Reviewers's report:

Minor Essential Revisions
1. The author mentioned the role of ERK1/2 in the Introduction. I propose to examine the effect of SR10 on the activity of ERK1/2.
2. The western blots should be quantitated. It is difficult to rely on these data for the authors to conclude that cyclin D1 was suppressed.

Discretionary Revisions
1. The introduction is not cohesive and does not clarify the objective or hypothesis of the paper. Most of all, it is not clear why the authors tried to associate diabetes with their data.
2. The experiments seem to be well designed. However, the concentrations used throughout the paper are not consistent. The authors should explain for this.
3. Many of the discussion are statements of results and should be deleted.
4. The author could give readers more information on the significance of SR10. Also, the action of PDGF-BB in triggering proliferation and migration of smooth muscle cells should be further explained.
5. Running title need to be rephrased.
6. The conclusion needs more sentence to explain the significance of SR10.

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

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.