Reviewer's report

Title: A hepatoprotective Lindera obtusiloba extract suppresses growth and attenuates insulin like growth factor-1 receptor signaling and NF-kappaB activity in human liver cancer cell lines

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Reviewer: Akiko Kojima-Yuasa

Reviewer's report:

This study demonstrated the anti-neoplastic effect of Lindera obtusiloba extract on human hepatocellular carcinoma cell lines and the signaling pathways involved. However, there are several minor concerns relating Results and Discussion that should be carefully address by the authors.

Results
Fig.2: Authors applied #-actin as a house-keeping protein for Western-blot. However, band of #-actin was not shown. Authors should add the band of #-actin in Fig. 2.

Discussion
Authors should discuss about the active compounds in Lindera obtusiloba extract, if possible.
There are several reports about the isolation and structural characterization from Lindera obtusiloba extract.

Minor comments:
Abstract
Methods (Line 3) TGF- -expression # TGF-#-expression

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.