Reviewer's report

Title: Immunomodulatory and Antitumour Effects of Abnormal Savda Munziq on an S180 Tumour-Bearing Murine Model

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Reviewer: Takashi Kumagai

Reviewer's report:

The authors investigated the anti-cancer activity of ASMq against S180 cells in vitro, and concluded that this herbal formula inhibited the tumor growth in the transplanted mice without cytotoxicity, associated with increased serum TNF-alpha, IL-2beta and IL-2.

The manuscript is well described, and contains important findings for the progress in herbal medicine.

But there are some concerns to be addressed for publication.

In the abstract, the authors described “survival” in line 8, and “The ASMq in the presence of .... plasmid DNA to fragment” in line 11.

What are backgrounds for these descriptions?

Minor Comments

Material and methods
2.2 line 6; Please define control group and model group briefly.
2.5 & 2.6 ; Please describe more about the MTT assay and FCM the authors used.

Results
3.1; How the authors evaluated the activity and mental state of the mouse ?
Please describe how the authors calculate the tumor growth velocity (TS).
3.2 line 9; Please describe what “the immune systems” mean.
3.5 line 2; All groups’ CD4 data decreased .... compared to control group.
There are no * in table 4.

Discussion
Last paragraph, line 5; a Chinese herbal medicine is deemed effective ......30% and above.
This description needs a reference.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
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.