Reviewer’s report

Title: Effects of Astragalus injection on TGF - beta/Smads pathway in kidney in type 2 diabetic mice

Version: 2 Date: 22 November 2013

Reviewer: GBKS Dr. Prasadf

Reviewer’s report:

- Major Compulsory Revisions

No additional experiments or major revision is needed and the manuscript may be accepted with minor revisions.

- Minor Essential Revisions

Minor language corrections are needed.

- Discretionary Revisions

The study explored the signalling pathway targeted by 'Astragalus' in alleviating one of the secondary complications of diabetes i.e., diabetic nephropathy. By employing appropriate tools, the authors succeeded in delineating the signal transduction pathway targeted by 'astragalus'.

The authors may discuss whether the effect(s) of 'astragalus' is through it's glucose lowering effect or is it independent of glucose lowering effect? Addressing the above question would further strengthen the discussion part.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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