Reviewer’s report

Title: Chebulagic acid from Terminalia chebula causes G1 arrest and induces apoptosis in retinoblastoma cells via p27 and NFkappaB dependent mechanisms

Version: 1 Date: 9 September 2013

Reviewer: Chanderdeep Tandon

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REVIEWER’S COMMENTS
This study by Kumar et al puts forward an alternative therapy for retinoblastoma. On the whole the results advocate the use of CA for the treatment of retinoblastoma and its cell sparing effect towards normal epithelial cells.
Using the track change method I have highlighted the changes/comments in the manuscript.

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined?
   - Yes the authors have posed a valid question and worked systematically to answer it.

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described?
   - Yes.

3. Are the data sound?
   - Yes.

4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition
   - Yes they are acceptable

5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data?
   - Acceptable

6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated?
   - Yes, they have mentioned that in vivo studies need to be done.

7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?
   - Yes

8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
   - Yes

9. Is the writing acceptable.
-Yes, except for some minor comments which I have highlighted in the manuscript.

Methods
There is no mention of the source of CA.

Results
In the Western blot analysis, it appears there is complete absence of Bcl2 at 48 and 72 hrs, although the authors state it is a time dependent decrease.

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

**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'.