Reviewer's report

Title: Study of ZHENG Differentiation in Hepatitis B-caused Cirrhosis: a Transcriptional Profiling Analysis

Version: 2 Date: 31 July 2014

Reviewer: Shijun Zhang

Reviewer's report:

The authors demonstrated the transcriptional profiles, differential co-expression genes and their functional properties for ZHENG differentiation in HBC patients and suggested that transcriptional profiles might be used to the ZHENG differentiation in HBC. The study will promote the development of ZHENG differentiation in HBC patients by the way of transcriptional profiles.

As we all know, blood stasis syndrome is major and important ZHENG of hepatitis B-caused cirrhosis (HBC), because blood stasis has been proved involving in the generation of liver fibrosis. In present study, the authors found that PSMD2 was involved in ZHENG differentiation of DHAS and LDSDS in HBC, and suggested that PSMD2 might be involved in the generation of liver fibrosis. It would be better if the authors discussed the reasons why the authors observed the transcriptional profiles of DHAS ZHENG and LDSDS ZHENG other than blood stasis ZHENG.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests