Reviewer's report

Title: HER2 expression sensitizes breast cancer cells to apoptosis by PEITC in vitro and in vivo

Version: 2 Date: 31 January 2012

Reviewer: Chandradhar Dwivedi

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Major Compulsory Revisions

The manuscript by Gupta and Srivastava describes the effects of phenethyl isothiocyanate (PEITC) on HER2 expression linked apoptosis in breast cancer cell lines. The manuscript provides some useful information to improve the treatment of breast cancer. Following suggestions are made to improve the readability and quality of the manuscript:

- Full name of PEITC should be provided in abstract.
- A list of abbreviations or full name of each abbreviation mentioned first time should be provided.
- English, grammar and punctuation should be improved.
- Source and purity of PEITC and doxorubicin should be provided.
- The site of cell injection in mice should be provided.
- Giving PEITC every day by gavage to mice may cause GI irritation and damage, an alternate route (such as mixing in feed, in drinking water etc.) should have been considered.
- Method for measuring tumor mass and calculating tumor volume should be provided.
- An vivo experiment with a combination of PEITC and doxorubicin should have been done.
- Bands in Western blots should be quantitated. Variations in replicates should be indicated. Data should be analyzed statistically.
- A potential target for PEITC should be discussed.

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

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

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