Reviewer’s report

Title: The molecular basis of phytoestrogen Genistein induced mitotic arrest and exit of self-renewal in embryonal carcinoma and primary cancer cell lines

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Reviewer: Zhiwei Wang

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The manuscript “The molecular basis of phytoestrogen genistein induced mitotic arrest and exit of self-renewal in embryonal carcinoma and primary cancer cell lines” by Regenbrecht et al. describes that major cell-cycle guarding checkpoints may be involved in Genistein-induced cell-cycle arrest in low passage, primary cancer cells.

This is a well designed and quite novel study. The work appears to be conducted carefully and the data provided supports the conclusions reached. Attention to minor concerns could further improve this strong manuscript.

1. Page 6: line 16, “GMB 1207” should be “GBM1207”.
2. Fig.1 and Fig 4. show the expression patterns in mRNA in cells treated with genistein. It would be better to detect the protein levels of genes such as GADD45G, GADD45A, TP53INP1, et al. using Western Blotting.
3. For Fig. 1a and Fig. 4. It is good to analysis statistics.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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