Reviewer's report

Title: Glibenclamide inhibits cell growth by inducing G0/G1 arrest in the human breast cancer cell line MDA-MB-231.

Version: 2 Date: 21 December 2012

Reviewer: JYOTI NAUTIYAL

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revision: None
Minor compulsory revision
1) The incorporation of RT-PCR data adds more weight to the manuscript. However, authors need to discuss the relative levels of KATP components' expression and sensitivity to Gli. Authors may either show western blot data to compare another cell line with greater sensitivity to Gli. Else, reference to previously published work can address this question.

2) Secondly authors should discuss the Gli doses in ER+ cells and compare the dose effects with MDA-MB-231 ER- cells. Authors have failed to address one of the concerns raised during first review. Gli dose (25µM) is pretty high. Authors need to comment on this and the possible development of Gli as therapeutic for cancer.

3) Adding another experiment to show additive effect of doxorubicin is another improvement authors have made. The observations show a better response with combined therapy and that too with a high dose of Gli. However, the discussion of this data could be explained in little more details. For example, at this time it is not known if the effect is mere additive or synergistic. Can using other chemotherapies allow overall dose-reduction (Dose reduction Index investigation) of Gli. Overall the conclusion of the manuscript needs to incorporate future strategy of how Gli can be employed as adjuvant therapy and developed as ER- breast cancer therapeutic.

4) The manuscript will benefit with more careful proof reading. There are a few grammar and spelling mistakes.

Discretionary revision: None

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

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

Declaration of competing interests:
Major compulsory revision: None

Minor compulsory revision

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