Reviewer’s report

Title: NMDA Receptor-Mediated CaMKII/ERK Activation Contributes to Renal Fibrosis

Version: 1 Date: 12 Feb 2020

Reviewer's report:

This study aimed to investigate the role of NMDAR in renal fibrosis, which was a revised manuscript. In general, the data quality is not sufficient and data were not described clearly, the concerns were listed as below:
1. The abstract described about the methods in very detail, however, the results were not presented adequately, which is not supportive to the conclusion. Similarly, the results were not described clearly in the main text.
2. The resolution of the figures was too low. It's hard to tell the histologic change of the kidney.
3. The company from where the reagents were purchased was not included, especially antibodies for Western blotting, and DXM.
4. For the in vitro study, E-cadherin, a-SMA etc should be detected after TGF-β treatment to prove the pro-fibrotic response was induced successfully.
5. The quantification data of Western blotting should be presented as mean ± SEM normalized to internal reference.

Please confirm that you have included your review in the ‘Comments to Author’ box?

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No

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- Are the statistical test(s) used in this study appropriate and well described?
- Is the exact sample size (n) reported for each experimental group/condition (as a number, not a range)?
- Are the description of any error bars and probability values appropriate?
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- Has a sample size calculation been included, or a description and rationale about how sample sizes were chosen?

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