Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 1 Date: 22 Feb 2020

Reviewer's report:

In general, the authors have done in vivo and in vitro experiments to demonstrate that NMDAR participated in both acute and chronic renal fibrogenesis via CaMKII/ERK activation. The manuscript is well organized and written. But before acceptance, the manuscript have some places need to be modified.
1. The resolution ratio of figures should be increased.
2. In figure 1, the pictures of Masson staining are better choosing the cortex region of the kidney.
3. In figure 2, the IHC of a-SMA, the tubular dilation in UUO group looks like slighter than UUO+NR—sh group.
4. In figure 4, it would be better to Low power image to show the general expression of all markers.

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

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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?

- Are all error bars defined in the corresponding figure legends?

- Has a sample size calculation been included, or a description and rationale about how sample sizes were chosen?

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