Reviewer's report

**Title:** STK33 overexpression in hypopharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma: Possible role in tumorigenesis

**Version:** 2  
**Date:** 26 September 2014

**Reviewer:** RADHAKRISHNA PILLAI

**Reviewer's report:**

The manuscript is well written. I have some minor points
1) the need for an in vivo study as in vitro experiments may not be conclusive of the whole picture.

2) Also the description of the figure 4 says that STK33 increases the expression of Caspase, when it should be STK33-RNAi that increases the expression.

3) What is the significance of the greater expression of STK33 in non-keratinizing HSCC than in keratinizing type ??

4) In figure 6 B, when there is STK33-RNAi why isn't there a significant reduction in STK33 expression?

I recommend with minor revision

**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:**

none