Reviewer’s report

Title: Resveratrol suppresses epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition in colorectal cancer through TGF-beta1/Smads signaling pathway mediated Snail/E-cadherin expression

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Reviewer: Zhe-Sheng Chen

Reviewer’s report:

The authors present a detailed report on the proposed working of resveratrol on inhibiting EMT in colorectal cancer LoVo cells both in vitro and in vivo. However the manuscript needs to be revised before it can be published in the journal.

Major Concerns:
1. Resveratrol has been previously demonstrated to inhibit the PI3K/Akt signaling pathway. Having said that the Akt, Wnt and TGF beta pathways all contribute towards the development of EMT in cancer cells. The authors present a work focused only on the TGF beta pathway without exploring the fact that resveratrol has been established to inhibit the PI3K/Akt signaling pathway. It is good to rule out the possibility that the effects seen here are not due to the primary inhibition of resveratrol of the PI3K/Akt pathway. Or at least discuss this in the discussion.
2. Smad 2 has been reported to protect the cells from undergoing EMT (Hoot et al., 2008), however the authors provide results demonstrating that Smad2 promotes EMT. Therefore, it is important to provide reasoning towards these results obtained in the discussion.

Minor Points:
1. Page 6, Line 143, the authors should clearly described the tumor size instead of using “an enough size”.
2. Page 7, Line 171, the authors should avoid to start a sentence using digital number “5”.
3. Page 11, Line 274, it is not suitable to use “dose-dependent manner” for the in vitro study. It should be better to use “concentration-dependent manner”.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

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

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