Reviewer’s report

Title: Paired design study by Real-time PCR: MiR-378 is one of the most possible early diagnose biomarker of human colorectal cancer.

Version: 4 Date: 6 October 2014

Reviewer: guangjun zhang

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The author’s study showed miR-378 was a potential biomarker for early detection of CRC which may help to diagnose colorectal cancer in early period.

Major Compulsory Revisions
1. The manuscript has been poorly written, and the content wasn't fresh.
2. In the paper, 96 aberrantly expressed miRNAs were identified, what kind of methods? TaqManHuman MicroRNA Array?
3. In the method part, Draw away from the edge of the site at least 2cm, which was adjacent normal mucosa?
4. Do you have IBM SPSS version 16.0 software?
5. The table 1 was not clear.
6. After a series of selection process in conditional logistic regression, we finally found nine microRNAs have statistically significant. What this means?
7. In the figure 2, microRNA expression was calculated using the CT method, was this correct?
8. We think that the ROC method should be used for the evaluation of potential biomarkers.
9. For early detection of CRC, the expression of miR-378 in different stage should be evaluated. The author only used the results of previous study.
10. In the discussion part, further mechanistic studies focusing on miRNA-378* are required for underlying roles in tumorigenesis of CRC[15]. Was the reference needed?