Reviewer's report

**Title:** Pharmacological targeting of valosin containing protein (VCP) selectively kills canine lymphoma cells by inducing DNA damage

**Version:** 5  
**Date:** 2 March 2015

**Reviewer:** Yihong Ye

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors did a few things to address my questions (mostly by explaining in the cover letter), but it is certainly important to clarify the points I raised not only in the cover letter but also in the manuscript for readers. In this regard, the authors did not explain in the paper why they believe there is a G0/G1 arrest despite that the peaks are very similar between untreated and treated samples. In addition, they should also mention that the number of cells in S phase is reduced. I also don't agree that further study of the differential sensitivity of cancer cells to Eeyarestatin I-mediated p97 inhibition is beyond the scope of the current study (the point 4 in my previous report). I feel that the authors should at least test whether p97 inhibition by another approach (e.g. siRNA or dominant negative p97 mutant) can also cause DNA damage and therefore selectively kill cancer cells. This is to exclude the possibility that Eey 1 may directly induce DNA damage.

As for the name, the authors should take either EERst-I or EER-I for short as used in the paper that initially reported this compound.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

i have no conflict of interest.