Reviewer’s report

Title: Establishment of monoclonal HCC cell lines with organ site-specific tropisms

Version: 5 Date: 27 January 2015

Reviewer: Siu Tim Cheung

Reviewer’s report:

1. Standard cell line authentication, for example by short tandem repeats, on the original cell line and the derived clones, are essential for cell line reporting. The authors have not addressed these.

2. The cover letter indicated the authors agreed on the revision to describe “the literature review on HCC metastasis to lung and lymph node”. But has not listed where they have incorporated the change. Cannot find the content in the revised submission, including text or reference list highlighted in red.

3. Justification on the formula for total metastatic foci number. The authors cited the reference, but did not explain the reason for using this formula.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests