Reviewer's report

Title: Flavones inhibit breast cancer proliferation through the Akt/FOXO3a signaling pathway

Version/Date: 4/3 October 2015

Reviewer: Wangzhi Li

Reviewer's report:

The revised manuscripts addressed many of my early concerns and improved the interpretation and writing. However, the authors' response to comments on Figure 4 don't really address the questions and concern: FOXO3a increase is well ahead of suppression of pAkt Ser-473 and the authors don't have sufficient data to show FOXO3a nuclear location is induced by flavone treatment (the data given can only indicate an increase of both cytosol and nuclear increase of FOXO3a). However, in the Results part of the Abstract session, the authors assert that "Flavone, apigenin and luteolin induced forkhead box O3 (FOXO3a) expression and its nuclear localization by inhibiting Phosphoinositide 3-kinase (PI3K) and protein kinase B (PKB)/Akt", this is not accurate and unacceptable for publishing. I would open to accept a revised manuscript if the authors either add more data to support the assertion or the authors revise the assertion.

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

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests