Reviewer’s report

Title: MiR-216b inhibits cell proliferation by targeting FOXM1 in cervical cancer cells and is associated with better prognosis

Version: 0 Date: 07 May 2017

Reviewer: Leslie Randall

Reviewer’s report:

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The authors present a well-written, well-executed investigation of FOXM1 and miR-216b as prognostic markers in cervical cancer. These data, and their preceding data, presented in the current manuscript are well supported by the experiments performed. However, these pathways were not identified as relevant in a systematic -omic evaluation of cervical cancer by the Cancer Genome Atlas Project (TCGA). I would ask the authors to comment in the discussion on their hypothesis on why the TCGA did not identify FOXM1 and/or miR-216b as key biomarkers in cervical cancer. The reference is provided for your convenience: Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network. Integrated genomic and molecular characterization of cervical cancer. Nature. 2017 Mar 16;543(7645):378-384. doi: 10.1038/nature21386. Epub 2017 Jan 23. PubMed PMID: 28112728; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC5354998.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
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Yes

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Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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Yes

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