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: 16 May 2017

Reviewer: Gwo Fuang Ho

Reviewer’s report:

This is a well researched article with convincing science, logical deduction of the molecular steps implicated, and interesting findings of significance to the community.

One observation, however, is the equal distribution of the patients in each group: 150 patients, 75 were miR-216b high level and 75 were miR-216b low level - were samples selected randomly (or deliberately balanced for the two groups) or the proportion of high and low miR-216b expression is 50% in the population? Far more patients in the miR-216b high group were early stage, which was reflected in the finding of better survival. If samples were not randomly selected, rather, were deliberately hand-picked, this introduced a huge bias in the analysis and affected the validity of the conclusion.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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

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I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
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Acceptable

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