Reviewer’s report

Title: CTHRC1 Induces Non-small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) Invasion through Upregulating MMP-7/MMP-9

Version: 1 Date: 12 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Takashi Kijima

Reviewer's report:

To the authors

The revised manuscript and the authors' response letter have addressed some of the previous issues that were raised.

However, no updated data by additional experiments that I requested has not appeared in this revised form yet.

I request the authors to perform additional experiments and faithfully answer the questions one by one.

Especially, I strongly recommend the authors to add the data showing the nuclear localization of CTHRC1 by western blot or immunofluorescence staining before publication.

CTHRC1 is generally recognized as a secreted protein. Therefore, the scientific impact and lucidity of this paper will be much higher if the authors can clearly show the nuclear localization of CTHRC1. I know that ChIP assay indirectly reflects the nuclear localization of CTHRC1 as the authors commented in their response letter. I still think that it is necessary to show the direct evidence of the nuclear translocation of CTHRC1.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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