Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 2 Date: 21 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Barbara Mary Fingleton

Reviewer's report:

The authors have made many of the changes requested, including the title change and the removal of references to mouse experiments. However there are still some inappropriate references to the work supporting a role in metastasis within the abstract, and near the end of the introduction (e.g. line 129).

More critically, however, the experiment requested by reviewer 2 (establishing nuclear localization of CTHRC1) as purportedly shown in Fig S5, does not have the appropriate controls to establish nuclear localization. At the very least lanes to show the total and cytosolic fractions need to be shown to establish that there is indeed an enrichment within the nucleus.

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.

No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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.

I recommend additional statistical review
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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