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: Takashi Kijima

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript has been revised well. I think this manuscript will be acceptable after the following two corrections have been made. First, regarding the western blot of Supplementary Figure S5 showing nuclear localization of CTHRC1, the authors need to demonstrate that cytoplasmic protein has been removed from their nuclear protein samples because, according to their previous paper (Ke Z et al. Oncotarget 2014, 5. 9410-9424.), CTHRC1 is thought to be abundantly located in cytoplasm. I recommend performing western blot using internal controls of not only nuclear protein but also cytoplasmic protein. Alpha-tubulin used in other experiments can be a reliable internal control of cytoplasmic protein. Additionally, the whole cell lysate samples also need to be included as input. Otherwise, the authors cannot rule out the possibility of the contamination of cytoplasmic protein in their nuclear protein samples. Second, the authors should mention how they isolated and extracted nuclear protein from the cells in "Methods and materials" or "Supplementary methods and materials” section so as to be reproducible.

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript
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Needs some language corrections before being published

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