**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** Bortezomib prevents cytarabine resistance in MCL, which is characterized by downregulation of dCK and up-regulation of SPIB resulting in high NF-κB activity

**Version:** 1 **Date:** 30 Oct 2017

**Reviewer:** Bhopal Mohapatra

**Reviewer's report:**

The manuscript by Freiburghaus C et al. to characterize the mechanisms of cytarabine resistance in MCL and to identify drugs suitable for treatment of relapsed/recurrent MCL patients treated with cytarabine is a very well written manuscript substantiated by multiple experiments. The dck protein level seems to be a major player for developing cytarabine resistance through regulation of NFκβ in MCL. The patient data supports the hypothesis. However the regulation of dck is not clear, as HDAC inhibitors were not able rescue the DCK level. Over all manuscript addresses the major issue of relapsed MCL with a suggestive combinatorial therapy for cytarabine resistance.

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

Yes

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If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

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