Reviewer’s report

Title: Regulation of human chorionic gonadotropin beta subunit expression in ovarian cancer

Version: 0 Date: 17 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Priya Srinivas

Reviewer's report:

Review of Article entitled "Regulation of human chorionic gonadotropin beta subunit expression in ovarian cancer" by Sliwa et. al.

The manuscript discusses the expression of beta hCG at mRNA levels with respect to its different isoforms and correlates it with promoter methylation and certain transcription factor expression status. The work involves appreciation as this would add knowledge regarding a key molecule beta hCG and its role in tumor progression. However, I would like to bring to notice certain major concerns that wouldn't support the chances of acceptance of this manuscript for publication in this journal.

1. There exist several typographical and grammatical errors throughout the manuscript. The sentences are incomplete at numerous places and have to be thoroughly re-written.

2. The manuscript can be made lucid and comprehensive. The authors are encouraged to thoroughly understand the basic style of writing a research article, as in how to present the reported data.

3. Though it has been discussed that various transcription factors affect the CGB expression as enlisted (Page 3, Line 24), how did the authors arrive at three factors selectively, which has not explained.

4. Beta hCG expression in ovarian cancers has already been discussed in published reports from your laboratory as well as others. How can you substantiate its over-expression just with the mRNA transcript levels alone and that to combined expression of all the isoforms from CGB3-9?

5. The manuscript mentions that there aren't any reports on beta hCG expression in non-trophoblast epithelial cancers (Page 8, Line 3). However, there are numerous publications in this regard, few of which are given below.

6. There is an absence of any discussion regarding the results to converge to a conclusion; further the conclusion is vague and has to be re-written. The overall significance of the manuscript with the interpreted results and discussion doesn't seem to fit the manuscript.

A thorough revision of the manuscript is needed for acceptance incorporating the aforesaid major comments.

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.

I am able to assess the statistics

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

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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