Reviewer’s report

**Title:** VEGF-C Induced by TGF-β1 Signaling in Gastric Cancer Enhances Tumor-induced Lymphangiogenesis

**Version:** 1 **Date:** 22 Mar 2019

**Reviewer:** Massoud Mirshahi

**Reviewer's report:**

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1) a light Proof-reading (focused on tenses and article) is needed.

2) In figure 1, what is meant by secreted VEGF-C? is it the VEGF-C secreted in medium? as it doesnot matches the results

3) In figure 5, TGF-B1 is shown to increase AKT but it doesnot produce if it affects VEGF-C expression, it will be better to perform the experiment using AKT inhibitors and evaluating expression of VEGF-C, to prove this hypothesis?

4) the last figure citation (Supplementary one) is wrong in cell tube formation assay result.

5) For cell tube formation assay i will suggest to use One-Way ANOVA, for better power of the significance.

6) for Figure 7 D, are the results significant or not for D-40 in two groups for each cancer cell line?

**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

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

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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