Reviewer's report

Title: Effects of Rhodiola Crenulata on Mice Hearts under Severe Sleep Apnea

Version: 2  Date: 25 March 2015

Reviewer: Kan Liao

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Major Compulsory Revisions:
1) The histopathological images in Fig. 1A showed visible tissue difference in hypoxia+saline mice. However, the TUNEL assay results in Fig. 1B did not show much apoptosis. The image of hypoxia+saline mice barely showed any apoptotic cells (only one visible apoptotic cell). So, the images did not represent the results well and should be replaced by the better ones.

2) In Fig. 2A, the exposure for tubulin was too dark. Since it was used as the denominator to normalize the level of FAS and FADD, overexposure could alter the relative levels.

Minor Essential Revisions
The overall quality of the Western blot images in the figures are relatively low. Since the quantitative results were obtained from the scanning of these images, better representative images should be used in the figures. The low quality of the Western blot image will affect the quantification.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.