Reviewer's report

Title: Xia-yu-xue decoction (XYXD) reduces carbon tetrachloride (CCl4)-induced liver fibrosis through inhibition hepatic stellate cell activation by targeting NF-kappaB and TGFbeta1 signaling pathways

Version: 3 Date: 22 March 2015

Reviewer: Sura WS Rocha

Reviewer's report:

Dear Editor Dr Jean Paul Dzoyem

Reviewer comments:

The article by Liu and colleagues describes the effect of XYXD in vitro and in vivo liver fibrosis murine. The data are interesting well conducted and indicate the potential utility of this compound for the treatment of liver fibrosis by inhibiting HSC activation via inhibition of NF-#B and TGF#1 signaling pathway. While the study might be of interest discretionary revisions have been clarified. Discretionary Revisions:

1) In the In vivo CCl4-induced liver fibrosis experiments, it would be interesting to add the gender, age and weight of the animals.

2) In Western blot methods, I suggest add the concentrations of proteins. Which control protein was used to normalize the response? Actin? Justify and I suggest add the text and figures.

3) I suggest add scale bars in all Micrographs.

4) Attention in the references according to the journal's guidelines.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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