Reviewer's report

Title: Fermented So-Cheong-Ryong-Tang (FCY) induces apoptosis via the activation of caspases and the regulation of MAPK signaling pathways in cancer cells

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Reviewer: Yung Hyun Choi

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript demonstrates that Fermented So-Cheong-Ryong-Tang (FCY) reduced cell viability and induced apoptotic cell death in AGS human gastric cancer cells. They also showed that FCY inhibited the tumor formation in athymic nude mice inoculated with HCT116 human colon cancer cells. The authors' data can draw much interest to the readers in related fields and extend to other basic/applied sciences. While the studies are well-designed and the manuscript in general is well-written, they need to address the following issues.

1) Describe the reason why the authors used gastric and colon cancer cells in the Introduction section, and the relationship between FCY and these cancer cell lines.

2) What about other cancer cell lines or normal cell lines in cell proliferation assay?

3) In the Results section, some paragraphs in Results section begin with title that is actually a kind of conclusion. It should be avoided because all conclusions can be done after results discussion based on obtained results.

4) In the Discussion section, please, emphasize the clinical potentials of your results.

The authors should discuss their results with the below paper, and emphasize the differences.


Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.