Reviewer’s report

Title: Multi-targeting chemoprevention of Chinese herb formula Yanghe Huayan Decoction on experimentally induced mammary tumorigenesis

Version: 2 Date: 26 Jul 2018

Reviewer: Wan Yong Ho

Reviewer's report:

This study evaluated the chemopreventive effect of a Yanghe Huayan Decoction against rat mammary tumorigenesis. Overall the study is interesting and worth reporting as not many are working on the prevention of mammary tumorigenesis using chemical. In addition, authors have profiled the active ingredients in the decoction. However, there are some suggestions to the authors:

- Authors must provide ethical approval number for this study.

- The animal model is interesting. However, authors must clearly state how they monitor tumor free survival. In addition, authors also must provide the occurrence and size of the tumor for each group of mice.

- Idea of measuring antioxidant capacity of the mice is not well connecting with the objective. Authors must properly connecting their antioxidant results with the objective of measuring tumor prevention.

- As this study evaluated the tumor initiation, authors must put more effort in comparing the control and treatment in regulation of pathway related to tumor initiation such as myc pathway, tumor renewal and even drug resistant.

- Discussion of the manuscript is general and need further improvement.

- Authors must explain the histopathology image in more details and label the image accordingly.

- Label for Fig 1b is missing.

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

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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