Reviewer’s report

Title: LncRNA-mRNA-miRNA expression variation profile in the urine of calcium oxalate stone patients

Version: 0 Date: 25 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Supreet Agarwal

Reviewer's report:

The study seeks to identify biomarkers for the diagnosis of renal stone by testing urine from CaOx patients. Although interesting observations and correlations were identified from the limited number of patients, the study doesn't provide robust biomarkers for renal stone diagnosis.

Fig 3: It is unclear whether differentially expressed miRNAs were considered to build ceRNA network or miRanda was used to predict all possible miRNA-mRNA interactions? Further, the resolution of figure 3 is poor and unreadable.

Fig 4: Expression of some of the miRNAs, mRNAs and lncRNAs didn't validate in CaOx treated HK-2 cells. Could this be cell line specific and effect of CaOx should be tested in other kidney cell lines? HK-2 cells were treated with 1 mM NaOx for 24 hours. How was this time point selected and is 1 mM clinically relevant concentration? Were the oxalate levels measured in urine of the patients included in this study?

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 am able to assess the statistics
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal