

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

August 25, 2014

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 2429-review.doc).

Title: Progress in pancreatic cancer therapeutics: the potential to exploit molecular targets

Author: Dr Kiruthikah Thillai, Dr Debashis Sarker, Dr Paul Ross

Name of Journal: World Journal of Pharmacology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 15659

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

- (1) *I would like to suggest the authors to update the manuscript with some recent publications. For example, the application of Hh inhibitor in pancreatic cancer is now controversial after the two studies published in Cancer Cell (Vol. 25, Issue 6, p719-p734 and p735-747), which can be included into the discussion.*

A summary of the pertinent findings from both of these papers has been included in the section entitled 'The molecular biology of PDAC' and then discussed further in the section entitled 'Hedgehog inhibitors'.

- (2) *It will be interesting to comment on the recent paper by Tabernero et al. Oncologist 2015. Prognostic Factors of Survival in a Randomized Phase III Trial (MPACT) of Weekly nab-Paclitaxel Plus Gemcitabine Versus Gemcitabine Alone in Patients With Metastatic Pancreatic Cancer.*

This paper has now been included in the section entitled 'Chemotherapy' where the MPACT trial is discussed.

- (3) *Page 1, 3rd and 2nd line from the bottom: The phrase "patients were randomized to receive gemcitabine ... weekly for 7 weeks followed by weekly for 3 weeks with one week's rest or to fluorouracil is hard to understand. Please clarify. Page 2, 2nd paragraph, 1st and 2nd line: This line is doubled and should be omitted. Page 3: The legend to fig. 1 is completely unsatisfactory. The items shown should be described in much more detail. Page 7, Conclusions: 3rd line: Please insert a colon after "three keys areas". It should be mentioned that a recent review on pancreatic adenocarcinoma has been published (NEJM 371:1039-1049;2014).*

The phrase in page 1 has now been edited for greater clarification. The legend to figure 1 has now been expanded to explain the figure in more detail; the text also describes each pathway under each headed section. The recent review published in NEJM has been referenced in the beginning chapter. Grammatical changes have been made as suggested.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you once again for publishing our manuscript in the World Journal of Pharmacology.

Sincerely yours,

Dr Kiruthikah Thillai
Department of Medical Oncology
Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Trust
London
United Kingdom
Se19RT