



School of Medicine
University of Missouri-Columbia

Jamal A. Ibdah, MD, PhD
Professor of Medicine/Gastroenterology
Professor of Medical Pharmacology and Physiology
Raymond E. and Vaona H. Peck Chair in Cancer Research
Director, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Five Hospital Drive
DC043.00, CE405
Columbia, MO 65212

PHONE: (573) 882-7349
FAX: (573) 884-4595
EMAIL: ibdahj@health.missouri.edu

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Jin-Lei Wang, Director, Editorial Office
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Please find enclosed our revised manuscript in Word format (file name: 3677-Revised.doc).

Title: Epigenetics of Hepatocellular Carcinoma: Role of MicroRNA

Authors: Sharad Khare, Qiong Zhang, Jamal A. Ibdah

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 3677

In response to the editor and reviewers' comments, please note:

1. We have revised the article and changes were made as suggested by the editor (comments #1-4) and formatted as per revision policies for mini-reviews.
 - A. Author contributions are indicated now on the first page.
 - B. Phone and Fax numbers are included on the first page.
 - C. An abstract of 200 words is included.
 - D. Core tip of less than 100 words is included.
 - E. Headings are bold and in capital letters.

2. Revisions have been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers as follows:

1st Reviewer: We appreciate the reviewer's acceptance of our manuscript without any major comment. As per suggestion we have made changes in the format that is acceptable to WJG.

2nd Reviewer: Again, we appreciate the comments and suggestions made by this reviewer. We agree with the reviewer and deleted the sentence "The expression of miRs is also controlled-----" in INTRODUCTION. Further, fonts were corrected to the same size in the following sentence. However, it should be noted that the size of the fonts appears different if a reference number is placed in superscript. We have also checked the third paragraph in INTRODUCTION for the font size as suggested. The last part of section 2 "numerous reported studies---" is changed to "In general". The idea behind this sentence is to explain how the effects of miRs in cell culture studies are investigated.

Under "*miRs As Therapeutic Targets in HCC*" in the starting sentence, we have replaced the term "lost" with "down-regulated". We have changed the last paragraph in CONCLUSION as suggested by the reviewer. The hypothesis to test the "geologically dispersed population" and "identify traits vulnerable to HCC" for miR profiling was rather vague. We have deleted these sentences from the conclusion. Furthermore, we have rewritten the ABSTRACT (200 words) with more information as suggested by this reviewer and the editor.

3rd Reviewer: The major comment from this reviewer was to bring the term "Review" at several places in order to show the readers that this is a "review

article” not an original research paper. We agree with the comment and mentioned the term “review” at several places in ABSTRACT and CORE TIP.

We believe that the comments made by the reviewer and the editor have greatly improved this mini-review article. We have made all necessary changes as suggested. Thank you again for publishing our mini-review in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jamal A. Ibdah', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jamal A. Ibdah, MD, PhD