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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 39864

Title: Abnormal Expression of HMGB-3 Significantly Associated with Malignant Transformation of Hepatocytes

Reviewer's code: 00069423

Reviewer's country: United States

Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong

Date sent for review: 2018-05-19

Date reviewed: 2018-05-22

Review time: 3 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
[Y] Grade A: Excellent	[Y] Grade A: Priority publishing	[Y] Accept (High priority)	Peer-Review:
[ ] Grade B: Very good	[ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing	[ ] Accept (General priority)	[Y] Anonymous
[ ] Grade C: Good	[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	[ ] Minor revision	[ ] Onymous
[ ] Grade D: Fair	[ ] Grade D: Rejection	[ ] Major revision	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:
[ ] Grade E: Do not publish		[ ] Rejection	[ ] Advanced
			[Y] General
			[ ] No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			[ ] Yes
			[Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

While HMGB3''s possible role as tumor markers has been found in several malignancy, this study is the first to demonstrate the possible role for carcinogenesis in liver tumor. Authors have carried out excellent experiment in vitro and in vivo and demonstrated the

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possibility of HMGB3 to be utilized as the biomarker for liver cancer, especially in the process of tumorigenesis. They are commended for their remarkable work. It hoped that their findings can soon be utilized as a tumor marker in the clinical setting. A minor typo, RPMI 1640 (not RIPM 1640)

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

[ ] The same title

[ ] Duplicate publication

[ ] Plagiarism

[Y] No

BPG Search:

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 39864

Title: Abnormal Expression of HMGB-3 Significantly Associated with Malignant Transformation of Hepatocytes

Reviewer's code: 03646639

Reviewer's country: Japan

Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong

Date sent for review: 2018-05-19

Date reviewed: 2018-05-23

Review time: 4 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
[ ] Grade A: Excellent	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing	[ ] Accept (High priority)	Peer-Review:
[ ] Grade B: Very good	[Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing	[Y] Accept (General priority)	[Y] Anonymous
[Y] Grade C: Good	[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	[ ] Minor revision	[ ] Onymous
[ ] Grade D: Fair	[ ] Grade D: Rejection	[ ] Major revision	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:
[ ] Grade E: Do not publish		[ ] Rejection	[ ] Advanced
			[Y] General
			[ ] No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			[ ] Yes
			[Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors investigated the dynamic HMGB3 expression in hepatocarcinogenesis, bioinformatics databases, HCC cell lines, and xenograft model, and to validate HMGB3 as a diagnostic marker or novel target gene for HCC. They HMGB3 mRNA levels were

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correlated with cell cycle and DNA replication pathways. Knockdown HMGB3 by specific shRNA significantly inhibited proliferation of HepG2 cells with cell cycle arrest, downregulating DNA replication related genes at mRNA or protein level. Furthermore, silencing HMGB3 significantly inhibited xenograft tumor growth with Ki67 reduction in vivo. The authors concluded that HMGB3 involved in malignant transformation of hepatocytes could serve as a useful biomarker for diagnosis and potential target therapy of liver cancer. The results reported in this paper and the conclusions drawn will contribute significantly to this field.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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[Y] No