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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 40269

Title: Biomarkers for HCC – what's new on the horizon?

Reviewer's code: 03656580

Reviewer's country: China

Science editor: Xue-Jiao Wang

Date sent for review: 2018-06-12

Date reviewed: 2018-06-14

Review time: 2 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
[ ] Grade A: Excellent	[Y] Grade A: Priority publishing	[ ] Accept (High priority)	Peer-Review:
[Y] Grade B: Very good	[ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing	[Y] 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[ ] Grade E: Do not publish		[ ] Rejection	[Y] Advanced
			[ ] General
			[ ] No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			[ ] Yes
			[Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) still is one of the most common and rapidly fatal malignancies worldwide with a multi-factorial, multi-step, complex process, and poor prognosis. Early discovery and effective therapy of HCC are of the utmost importance. Biomarkers to identify optimal treatment for distinct patients are still lacking for HCC

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due to limited availability of biopsies. Novel treatment options, esp. immune checkpoint inhibitors, may need novel biomarker approaches and non-tissue based technologies might provide a solution to identify those biomarkers. In this article, the current status of biomarker identification for HCC is discussed. The further development of emerging technologies that are not dependent on tissue will also increase our knowledge for the better treatment of patients but more homogeneous study design regarding technologies and patient characteristics need to be done to achieve meaningful sample sizes with results that can be robustly translated into clinical applications.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

[ ] The same title

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[Y] No

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[Y] No

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 40269

Title: Biomarkers for HCC – what's new on the horizon?

Reviewer's code: 02998194

Reviewer's country: Greece

Science editor: Xue-Jiao Wang

Date sent for review: 2018-06-12

Date reviewed: 2018-06-20

Review time: 8 Days

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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It is a nice review but needs improvement 1. the abstract is quite vague 2. the immune checkpoint inhibitors need clarification (should be at the key words 3. you spend more place to describe the newer treatments than the newer biomarkers 4. we need better description of the old biomarkers and more detailed info of the new (eg Osteopontin,

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Canavaninosuccinate, Glypican 3, High Met expression).Esp when we combine some of those (eg. AFP and Osteopontin)

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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[ ] Plagiarism

[Y] No

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[Y] No