



**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 40286

**Title:** Role of bile acids in colon carcinogenesis

**Reviewer's code:** 00506397

**Reviewer's country:** United States

**Science editor:** Xue-Jiao Wang

**Date sent for review:** 2018-07-05

**Date reviewed:** 2018-07-16

**Review time:** 11 Days

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

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Nguyen et al., have made an attempt to review published papers aimed at investigating a role of bile acids (BAs) especially secondary BAs, in the pathogenesis of colorectal cancer. Additionally, the authors outline putative molecular mechanisms by which BAs promote colon oncogenesis, impinge on gene expression and signaling pathways, and



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current status of colon cancer therapeutics. Although the authors must be commended for providing a balance review of the current state of affairs, this manuscript must be VERY EXTENSIVELY revised to rectify numerous problems with grammar, English expression and ILLUSTRATIONS to support their REVIEW as outlined below: 1. The Abstract must be re-written to better summarize what is contained in this Review. 2. The most urgent issue that needs authors' attention is that this manuscript is extensively edited by someone with thorough understanding of English expression and grammar. Although I can provide numerous examples of poor English and grammar, a few examples are offered: An example of muddled expression and dangling participles (Page 1) "In addition, through their nuclear receptors, including "farnesoid X receptor" (FXR), pregnane X receptor (PXR), vitamin D3 receptor (VDR), and constitutive androstane receptor (CAR), BAs also act as signaling molecules regulating their own synthesis, transport, homeostasis, and other metabolic processes such as energy-related metabolism and glucose handling." Also, why are the words farnesoid X receptors, classical and alternative in quote marks? The pathway should be plural. Page 2 "after synthesized in hepatocytes" should read "after their synthesis in hepatocytes". Express properly what is meant by "facilitating the solubilizing" "effluxed". What is "anti-rifampicin"? "glomerulus" should be changed to "glomeruli", "reabsorption and deconjugated" should be hyphenated. And so on and so forth..... 3. The authors must reduce the use of unnecessary abbreviations for words and expressions that are used rather sparingly or only once. I suggest that even after minimizing the number of abbreviations, authors must provide a complete list of abbreviations and their explanations. 4. The Figures/Illustrations are generally POORLY designed and their Legends are even MORE POORLY articulated. For example, without an explanatory legend, it is rather impossible to decode what the authors want their readers to get from Figure 1 and Figure 2. For Figure 1, it may be much better to provide an illustration of



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the GI tract, Liver, and kidney to indicate the key points about the formation and secretion of Bile acids. Figure 2 is even more confusing WITHOUT AN EXPLANATORY LEGEND. The flow of different ARROWS and THEIR RELATIVE SIZES appear to be arbitrary and must be CLEARLY EXPLAINED. Same concern is expressed for FIGURES 3 and 4.

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

##### ***Google Search:***

- The same title
- Duplicate publication
- Plagiarism
- No

##### ***BPG Search:***

- The same title
- Duplicate publication
- Plagiarism
- No



**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 40286

**Title:** Role of bile acids in colon carcinogenesis

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**Reviewer's country:** Italy

**Science editor:** Xue-Jiao Wang

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SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The paper is a well written review on the role of bile acids in colon carcinogenesis. The information provided is exhaustive and schematic. I have only minor comments: - I would erase signals and therapeutics from the key words, they are too generic (signaling pathways? molecular targets?) - page 5, third line, erase passive diffusion that is a way of



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going across membranes of bile acids - page 5, the second paragraph should be rewritten: UDCA is not a secondary but a tertiary bile acid - page 17, first line EGF19 should be FGF19 - in the section about bile acids as therapeutic targets the authors should also mention obeticholic acid as an FXR agonist; they have to write about the anti-oncogenic properties of obeticholic acid in the liver described so far. Furthermore, the first 4 lines of the third paragraph are not clear and I believe the final message has been wrongly inverted ("UDCA prohibits the chemopreventive effect...?"). The authors write that UDCA reduces the concentration of toxic secondary bile acids but do not specify where: bile, blood, urine, feces?

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

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##### ***BPG Search:***

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