

Answers to reviewers' comments

Reviewer #00183086

This is an interesting survey with regard potential use of the CXC family of chemokines as prognostic or predictive biomarkers and possible drug targets in colorectal cancer. Nevertheless, corrections are needed and revisions are required.

A: We want to thank the reviewer for his/her kind words.

In the Introduction section the sentence "In industrialized countries the prognosis of early stage disease is positive" should be re-written.

A: We have followed the reviewer recommendations and have changed the sentence.

Current first-line treatment of metastatic CRC should be more analysed.

A: We have introduced more data about it; however, the aim of the work is not to review current guidelines of metastatic CRC treatment. Instead, we have referenced the ESMO consensus guidelines for the management of patients with metastatic colorectal cancer from Van Cutsem E and colleagues (reference 3).

Please clarify the aim of the study.

A: the aim has been clarified in line 146

The heading "Literature search" should be replaced.

A: we are sorry but, according to guidelines of the journal, we do not see any reason to replace the heading. We would like to clarify to the readers, how the literature search was done. This is something quite usual.

Throughout the text information included in Figures or Tables should be reduced.

A: thanks for this observation. We have proceed according to the reviewer's comments.

The article is too narrative

A: we have improved this

Table 1 is too long. Information included should be more concise.

A: this table has been corrected according to this reviewer's comments

Figures' quality is excellent. Nevertheless, legends should be reduced in size. 6. Grammatical errors should be corrected.

A: we have follow journal's guidelines. We have corrected the grammatical errors.

Reviewer #02441722

Title: The CXC family of chemokines as prognostic or predictive biomarkers and possible drug targets in colorectal cancer. The authors reviewed the clinical significance of CXC family. This manuscript is very interesting and well written. However, I feel there are some problems in this article.

A: Thanks to the reviewer for him/her kind words

Authors described "the five year survival rate for patients with local or distant metastasis is only around 40% and 5%, respectively." I think these rates are too low. Authors should change this sentence and reference.

A: We have rewritten the sentence and specified data.

In page 10, line 19, authors should change "HIF-1a" to "HIF-1 α " or "HIF-1alpha".

A: thanks to the reviewer for doing such observation. We have know fixed the error.

Author should correct the typographical errors.

A: we have corrected all the errors

Reviewer #02570566

The title of this manuscript is the CXC family of chemokines as prognostic or predictive biomarkers and possible drug targets in colorectal cancer. In this study, the authors reviewed mainly summarizes the most recent findings on the role of CXC chemokines and their receptors

in CRC and discusses their possible value as prognostic or predictive (and prognostic) biomarkers as well as the possibility of targeting their intracellular signalling as a therapeutic strategy. Study is well designed and it should be published in the journal.

A: We want to thank the reviewer for such nice words.

Reviewer #03669108

Very interesting study, nice tables and great figures. Congratulations!

A: Thank you so much!