

Dear Dr. Ma,

Thank you very much for your letter and advice. We have revised the manuscript and would like to re-submit it for your consideration. We have addressed the comments raised by the reviewers, and the amendments are highlighted in red in the revised manuscript. Point-by-point responses to the reviewers' comments are listed below.

We hope that the revised version of the manuscript is now acceptable for publication in your journal.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Wen-Fu Tang

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the reviewers for their constructive and positive comments.

### **Replies to reviewer 1 #**

#### **Comment:**

The authors should be congratulated for carrying out an interesting scientific study. The study is well designed, well carried out and well written. How applicable the use of SJP is in a Western setting remains unclear, I suspect the authors will need to find the active components and mechanisms of action before the treatment can be transformed into a potential useful human treatment for trials. My only comment is that the manuscript is too long.

#### **Answer:**

We really appreciate the constructive comments raised by reviewer 1.

We have already measured the active components of Sheng-jiang decoction in rats with acute pancreatitis [1], and the determination of the active components for obesity-induced pancreatic inflammatory injury is underway. We have tried our best to streamline the manuscript, but in order to let the readers fully understand this study, we present a detailed description. In the future, we will pay attention to the number of words in the manuscript.

[1] Zhu L, Li JY, Zhang YM, Kang HX, Chen H, Su H, Li J, Tang WF. Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of Shengjiang decoction in rats with acute pancreatitis for protecting against multiple organ injury. *World J Gastroenterol* 2017; 23: 8169-8181 [PMID: 29290653 DOI: 10.3748/wjg.v23.i46.8169]

### **Replies to reviewer 2#**

#### **Comment:**

To Authors The manuscript develops, by the evaluations of data from experimental studies, an interesting section of the complex problem of biochemical basis of obesity development. The role of Sheng-jiang powder should be effective in the control of obesity. The study is well conducted in

the methods employed, results evaluation and discussion. In my opinion should be added the synthetic conclusion.

**Answer:**

We really appreciate the constructive comments raised by reviewer 2.

At the end of the discussion from our previously submitted draft, we presented appropriate summarizations of the current knowledge, which show that SJP can inhibit the inflammatory response, prevent pancreatic fibrosis, promote pancreatic acinar cell repair by regulating the key molecules of the adiponectin-AMPK signalling pathway, and eventually ameliorate obesity-induced pancreatic inflammatory injury in rats.