

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 43171

**Title:** Relationship between *Fusobacterium nucleatum*, inflammatory mediators and microRNAs in colorectal carcinogenesis

**Reviewer's code:** 03656613

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Ruo-Yu Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2018-10-30

**Date reviewed:** 2018-10-31

**Review time:** 1 Day

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:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input 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

Increasing evidences have suggested *Fusobacterium nucleatum* (Fn) is a potential factor in CRC etiology. In this manuscript, the authors investigated the roles of Fn in colorectal cancer (CRC) pathogenesis, and found Fn is a risk factor for CRC by increasing the



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expression of inflammatory mediators IL1B, IL6 and IL8 through a possible miRNA mediated activation of TLR2 or TLR4. The comprehensive results provided innovative contents to the data in this field. There is a problem which needs to revision. 1 It is suggested to shorten the manuscript by omitting the duplicated contents in introduction and discussion. 2 It is suggested to shorten the title as well. 3 It is suggested to provide a figure to clearly interpret the results about Fn in CRC pathogenesis in this study in order to shorten literal explanation.

#### **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:** 43171

**Title:** Relationship between *Fusobacterium nucleatum*, inflammatory mediators and microRNAs in colorectal carcinogenesis

**Reviewer's code:** 00562236

**Reviewer's country:** Italy

**Science editor:** Ruo-Yu Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2018-10-30

**Date reviewed:** 2018-11-03

**Review time:** 4 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 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The paper by Proensa et al is study on quantification of *Fusobacterium nucleatum* (fn) in colorectal tumors, and its association with inflammatory factors and miRNA involved in the modulation of the immune system. Background is concisely reported, methods

description thoroughly described, results are presented in a consequent manner and allow to reach the aim stated, and they contribute an important piece of knowledge in defining the involvement of fn in colorectal carcinogenesis shedding light also on the mechanisms of action of that bacterium. Findings are discussed adequately, and their relevance to the existing literature discussed appropriately. Tables and figures are straightforward but self-explicative and clear. Statistics requirements are satisfied. References are sufficiently important and updated. The paper is well organized and presented. The main finding of the study is the definition of the role of fn in colorectal carcinogenesis, and its possible mechanisms of action on the inflammatory and immunological responses of the host. The main drawback of the study is that several interactions of the factors are involved in the process, and the overall picture remains quite confusing, and needs to be elucidated by further studies. However, the design of the study is rigorous, and the experiments well conducted.

## **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

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

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