



**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

**Manuscript NO:** 47888

**Title:** Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma: Treatment hurdles, tumor microenvironment and immunotherapy

**Reviewer’s code:** 03806663

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Assistant Professor

**Reviewer’s country:** Egypt

**Author’s country:** Greece

**Reviewer chosen by:** Ying Dou

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-10-24 12:07

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-10-28 08:26

**Review time:** 3 Days and 20 Hours

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" 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 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**



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this is an important review discussing a hot topic in the field of gastroenterology and cancer treatment. much is still needed for understanding of the pathogenesis and treatment of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma. a metaanalysis is needed to discuss the issue of immunotherapy in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma. a few corrections are highlighted in the uploaded file

#### **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 Gastrointestinal Oncology

**Manuscript NO:** 47888

**Title:** Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma: Treatment hurdles, tumor microenvironment and immunotherapy

**Reviewer’s code:** 03551817

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Associate Research Scientist

**Reviewer’s country:** China

**Author’s country:** Greece

**Reviewer chosen by:** Ying Dou

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-10-25 14:35

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-10-31 14:02

**Review time:** 5 Days and 23 Hours

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
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		<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

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In this review, the authors give an outline of why pancreatic cancer is so lethal and the treatment hurdles that exist. Particular emphasis is given to the role of the tumor microenvironment and some of the latest and promising studies on immunotherapy in PDAC are also presented. However, there are some questions as follows: 1. "CSCs account for 1%-5%", you may need footnote here. 2. "many PDAC tumors" of "many PDAC tumors are characterized by the invasion of MDSC and the upregulation of PD-L1 through INF- $\gamma$ ", which refers to those, please indicate them. 3. "Current treatments fail to exhibit a severe efficacy and beneficially affect clinical outcome, as they do not adequately target CSCs." Is that just one of reasons? The statement is inappropriate, please explain it. 4. The format of references is inconsistent.

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

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- No

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