

To:

Dr Jia-Ping Yan,

Science Editor of **World Journal of Gastroenterology**,

August 29, 2019

Dear Dr. Yan,

I am pleased to resubmit for publication the revised version of “LncRNA-SNHG15 accelerates the development of hepatocellular carcinoma by targeting MiR-490-3p/HDAC2 axis” (ID: 50590). I appreciated the constructive criticisms of the reviewers. I have addressed each of their concerns as outlined below.

**Reviewer #1:**

This study demonstrates the role of microRNA-490-3p targeting HDAC2 in long non-coding RNA-induced hepatocellular carcinoma malignancy. The control images for cell invasion such as normal human liver cells should be added in Figure 1. Proofreading is needed.

**Response:** Thank you for your suggestion. We have added normal human liver cell (L-O2) migration and invasion in Figure 1.

**Reviewer #2:**

The paper is well written and the study is well designed. but please can i know what you mean by Edmondson as i am not familiar with this word.

**Response:** Thank you for your question. The abbreviation “Edmondson” is really inappropriate. In fact, “Edmondson-Steiner grading” is more appropriate

(the word has been changed in our manuscript), which was a way to classify the degree of differentiation of Hepatocellular Carcinoma by histological grading according to Edmondson and Steiner. In “Edmondson-Steiner grading”: Type I: the cancer tissues were arranged in a thin beam (trabecular cable type) with high differentiation degree and long natural doubling time.

The nuclei of type II cancer cells are large, hyperchromatic, abundant, eosinophilic, and often arranged in glandular or acinar (pseudoglandular) patterns. The nuclei of type III cancer cells were enlarged and concentrated, which was more serious than type II cancer cells. The nuclei of type IV are strongly stained and occupy most of the cells. The cytoplasm is often lacking. The growth of type IV is like medullary and rarely shaped.

I hope you are satisfied with these answers. Thank you again for your patient editing of our paper. We are pleased to see the paper is in a better shape now.

Sincerely

Shuo Fang