

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 54060

**Title:** Natural products that target macrophages in treating non-alcoholic steatohepatitis

**Reviewer's code:** 02861277

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MSc, PhD

**Professional title:** Academic Fellow, Doctor, Postdoctoral Fellow, Senior Postdoctoral Fellow

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-01-10

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jin-Zhou Tang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-01-14 08:42

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-01-16 10:11

**Review time:** 2 Days and 1 Hour

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 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 checked="" 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**

In the manuscript titled “Natural products that target macrophages in treating non-alcoholic steatohepatitis”, the authors provided an overview about the role of macrophages in the pathogenesis of NAFLD/NASH together with the effect of several natural compounds on their recruitment, polarization and metabolic status. The topic reviewed by the authors is extremely interesting taking into account the urgent need to set a validated therapeutic approach for NAFLD/NASH. Macrophages (and in general innate immunity) have a prominent role in the pathogenesis of NAFLD/NASH. However, macrophages act also as antigen-presenting cells (APCs) mediating the stimulation of T lymphocytes that, in their turn, mediate the activation/polarization of macrophages. Recently, the adaptive immune responses have been recognized as a key player in NAFLD/NASH progression. Based on these premises, I think that the role of adaptive immunity should be mentioned (giving some hints in the introduction) to provide to the readers an overall picture of inflammatory responses in the pathogenesis of NAFLD/NASH. Moreover, I think that the authors should give some comments about the several natural compounds to which they refer. The authors should reply to some questions related to those products such as: which are the more promising on the base of the experimental results? Which is the most studied (if any)? Which are the missing point in this research field? Which are the critical issues (if any) related to the use of those compounds? Are there human studies for some products (e.g. curcumin)? To my opinion, the reply to these questions will give much more appeal to the manuscript.

## **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

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