

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 55710

**Title:** Expression and diagnostic value of HE4 in esophageal squamous cell carcinoma

**Reviewer's code:** 02953994

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** FACP, MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

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

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

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**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-04-13 10:41

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<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

HE4 is a 25 kDa secreted glycoprotein, is specifically expressed in epididymis, lung and trachea tissues. HE4 carries protease inhibitor activity through interactions with serine proteases, Prss35 and Prss23, which are implicated in kidney fibrosis in a mouse model. The prognostic value of serum HE4 as a biomarker for ovarian and endometrial cancers has also been well recognized. Serum HE4 could be a potential diagnostic marker for small cell lung cancers, non-small cell lung cancer, breast, ovarian, endometrial cancers. HE4 was found to be of little benefit in diagnosis, prognosis and other clinical settings of several human cancers. But there is little research focus on the diagnostic value of HE4 in ESCC. In this study, the authors evaluated the associations between serum HE4 levels and clinicopathological parameters in a cohort of ESCC patients. The design of the study is very well. Sample size is large, and methods are described in detail. Results are interesting and well discussed. References are updated. Please check the data in tables. And figures should be moved to the end of the text. A minor editing is required according to the journals' guidelines. Thank you very much.