

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Clinical Cases

**Manuscript NO:** 63450

**Title:** Epithelial-mesenchymal transition in chemoresistance of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma

**Reviewer's code:** 05261005

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-01-28

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-01-28 14:01

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-02-01 10:06

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

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Dear Authors, thank you for sharing your article. This review describes the role of epithelial-mesenchymal transition in chemoresistance of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma. This is an interesting topic because the chemoresistance of this disease is one of the most relevant limitations in its treatment. 1) Given the complexity and the great number of different pathways that you describe, in my opinion, you should consider adding one or more figures or tables in order to summarize key points. 2) "In 1996, gemcitabine was approved by Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to treat all stages of advanced PC and has been the first-line treatment until now[25]" No, since 2011 first line therapy is FOLFIRINOX and in 2013-4 was approved for this use also gemcitabine plus nab-paclitaxel 3) "Numerous other studies revealed that the tumor microenvironment plays a pivotal role in EMT-driven drug resistance (reviewed in reference 21)[21]" You should consider summarize these studies (in my opinion even a couple of sentences are enough, or a table) 4) Language needs further polishing • "Chemoresistance, defined as drugs showing no or less response to cancer cells at the effective inhibitory concentration" Cancer cells showing no or less ecc... • "Although some studies showed that EMT makes an limited" • "The expression pattern of hMENA isoforms, alternative splicing products of the actin regulator, regulated"