

Dear Lian-Sheng Ma, Science Editor, Company Editor-in-Chief,

Re: "Room for improvement in the treatment of pancreatic cancer: novel opportunities from gene targeted therapy."

On behalf of my co-Authors, I would like to thank you and the reviewers very much for reviewing our manuscript entitled: *"Room for improvement in the treatment of pancreatic cancer: novel opportunities from gene targeted therapy"*, and considering it for publication in *"World Journal of Gastroenterology"*, following the amendments that we have made, based on Editor-in-Chief and Reviewers' comments. Please see below, a point-by-point response, to the Reviewers' comments. The appropriate changes have also been made in the revised manuscript.

As part of our revised version:

A) Please see below a point-by-point reply to the Reviewers' comments.

Their comments are shown in red color and our answers are shown in blue color:

Reviewer #1:

Specific Comments to Authors: The present mini review describes that additional space to improve therapeutic approach for pancreatic cancer, as well as on research which has focused on gene therapy not only for the treatment of inoperable pancreatic disease, but also for its early stages. I think that this mini review is well-written and suitable for publication in World Journal of Gastroenterology. I believe the paper will be of interest to the readership of World Journal of Gastroenterology and would recommend it for acceptance.

We would like to thank the Reviewer #1 for his valuable comments.

Reviewer # 2:

Specific Comments to Authors: In this mini-review the authors aim to shed light on the very contemporary and important thematic of pancreatic cancer treatment, focusing on updated therapeutic and gene-therapy approaches. They adequately address the topic by providing a comprehensive analysis of growing opportunities for the treatment of both inoperable and early stages pancreatic disease. Tables and figures are properly organized and clear. This manuscript can be an useful update on this topic for WJG readers. Minor points: Few typing/English errors (for example in manuscript core tip) should be corrected Tumor suppressor genes section, first line. Oncogene is written instead of tumor suppressor gene I find a cover letter named as a "non native speakers of English editing certificate", attached

We would like to thank the Reviewer #2 for his important comments.

We have corrected the aforementioned errors as well as updated the correct file for the cover letter.

Reviewer #3:

Specific Comments to Authors: The authors provide a comprehensive review about pancreatic cancer gene target therapy options. In my view, the review is timely and although several aspects would deserve a deeper discussion, the most relevant aspects have been nicely pointed out and discussed in a comprehensive manner.

We would like to thank the Reviewer #1 for his valuable comments.

Science editor:

1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a minireview of the room for improvement in the treatment of pancreatic cancer. The topic is within the scope of the WJG. (1) Classification: Two Grades A and Grade B; (2) Summary of the Peer-

Review Report: The authors provide a comprehensive review about pancreatic cancer gene target therapy options. The questions raised by the reviewers should be answered; (3) Format: There is 1 table and 4 figures; (4) References: A total of 69 references are cited, including 17 references published in the last 3 years; (5) Self-cited references: There is no self-cited reference; and (6) References recommendations: The authors have the right to refuse to cite improper references recommended by the peer reviewer(s), especially references published by the peer reviewer(s) him/herself (themselves). If the authors find the peer reviewer(s) request for the authors to cite improper references published by him/herself (themselves), please send the peer reviewer's ID number to editorialoffice@wjgnet.com. The Editorial Office will close and remove the peer reviewer from the F6Publishing system immediately.

2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade A and two Grades B. 3 Academic norms and rules: No academic misconduct was found in the Bing search. 4 Supplementary comments: This is an invited manuscript. No financial support was obtained for the study. The topic has not previously been published in the WJG. 5 Issues raised: (1) The authors did not provide original pictures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor; (2) PMID numbers are missing in the reference list. Please provide the PubMed numbers and DOI citation numbers to the reference list and list all authors of the references. Please revise throughout; and (3) If an author of a submission is re-using a figure or figures published elsewhere, or that is copyrighted, the author must provide documentation that the previous publisher or copyright holder has given permission for the figure to be re-published; and correctly indicating the reference source and copyrights. For example, "Figure 1 Histopathological examination by hematoxylin-eosin staining (200 ×). A: Control group; B: Model group; C: Pioglitazone hydrochloride group; D: Chinese herbal medicine group. Citation: Yang JM, Sun Y, Wang M, Zhang XL, Zhang SJ, Gao YS, Chen L, Wu MY, Zhou L, Zhou YM, Wang Y, Zheng FJ, Li YH. Regulatory effect of a Chinese herbal medicine formula on non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. World J Gastroenterol 2019; 25(34): 5105-5119. Copyright ©The Author(s) 2019. Published by Baishideng Publishing Group Inc[6]". And please cite the reference source in the references list. If the author fails to properly cite the published or copyrighted picture(s) or table(s) as described above, he/she will be subject to

withdrawal of the article from BPG publications and may even be held liable. 6
Recommendation: Conditional acceptance.

We would like to thank the Science Editor for his valuable comments.

According to the following comments:

1. *"The authors did not provide original pictures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor;"*
2. *"PMID numbers are missing in the reference list. Please provide the PubMed numbers and DOI citation numbers to the reference list and list all authors of the references. Please revise throughout;"*

the appropriate changes were made in the text (for reference list) and the required ppt and docx. Files were sent as well.

For the last comment:

"If an author of a submission is re-using a figure or figures published elsewhere, or that is copyrighted, the author must provide documentation that the previous publisher or copyright holder has given permission for the figure to be re-published; and correctly indicating the reference source and copyrights. For example, "Figure 1 Histopathological examination by hematoxylin-eosin staining (200 ×). A: Control group; B: Model group; C: Pioglitazone hydrochloride group; D: Chinese herbal medicine group. Citation: Yang JM, Sun Y, Wang M, Zhang XL, Zhang SJ, Gao YS, Chen L, Wu MY, Zhou L, Zhou YM, Wang Y, Zheng FJ, Li YH. Regulatory effect of a Chinese herbal medicine formula on non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. World J Gastroenterol 2019; 25(34): 5105-5119. Copyright ©The Author(s) 2019. Published by Baishideng Publishing Group Inc[6]". And please cite the reference source in the references list. If the author fails to properly cite the published or copyrighted picture(s) or table(s) as described above, he/she will be subject to withdrawal of the article from BPG publications and may even be held liable."

I can assure you that my colleague and co-author Doukatas Aris created himself via software- website Biorender.com the figures.

(2) Editorial office director:

No comments on that.

(3) Company editor-in-chief: I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Gastroenterology, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors.

We would like to thank the *Company editor-in-chief* for his valuable comments.

Finally and regarding the Copyright Licence agreement forms

I would be grateful if you could allow me to upload those forms for each of my coauthor as a separate file since I am currently working in UK and the rest of our team is located in Greece; therefore it is impossible to get all the signatures within one form.

We hope that you will find this revised draft of our manuscript, as suitable for publication in "*World Journal of Gastroenterology*". Thank you very much for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

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