

January 20, 2014



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 6655-review.doc).

Title: Inhibition of host immune response in colorectal cancer: Human Leukocyte Antigen-G (HLA-G) and beyond

Author: Marica Garziera and Giuseppe Toffoli

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6655

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated. Answers to reviewers, corrections and grammatical mistakes are highlighted in yellow. Decomposable figures of 300 dpi resolution were loaded as request.

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer 01939901 (answers are underlined):

-1. In page 6, the authors mention ".....may have a pro- or anti-tumorigenic role in both CRC and CAC". However, CAC is a subtype of CRC.

Thank you for your pertinent suggestion. Yes, CAC is a subtype of CRC, but we chose to emphasize the role of innate immune cells also in colitis-associated cancer because their pathogenesis differs from classical CRC as explained in page 5.

-2. In page 14, the authors mention "Moreover, we hypothesize a direct role of HLA-G in influence the IS value considering its direct inhibitory properties over NK cells and CTLs ". Actually, there has been a lot of papers about the this aspect, like "Dan – Dan Dong, Shang – mian Yie, Ke Li, et al Importance of HLA – G expression and tumor infiltrating lymphocytes in molecular subtypes of breast cancer *Human Immunology* 73 (2012): 998 – 1004. "

Yes, there are many papers about this topic but nobody until now mentioned a direct link between HLA-G and Immune Score. Therefore to strength our suggestion that reflects the enverse correlation among HLA-G expression and TILs, we decided to add this reference (Dong *et al*)^[130] in the sentence you've cited in page 14.

-3. There are too many spelling and grammatical mistakes in this article, like ""highlithed and HLA G" in page 2 and "we hypothesize a direct role of HLA-G in influence the IS value" in page 14.

Thank you for your kind and pertinent observations, we revised the English language in our manuscript and

corrected the grammatical and spelling mistakes.

3 References and typesetting were corrected (in yellow). Name of the first author and number of volume was reported in bold-faced letters as request.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

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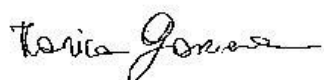
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Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marica Garziera', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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