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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

Manuscript NO: 83158

Title: The transcription factor GMEB1 promotes hepatocellular carcinoma progression

by activating YA Y

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05348255 Position: Peer Reviewer Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Egypt

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-01-17

Reviewer chosen by: Geng-Long Liu

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-02-10 09:19

Reviewer performed review: 2023-02-10 09:24

Review time: 1 Hour

[] Grade A: Excellent [] Grade B: Very good [Y] Grade C:
Good
[] Grade D: Fair [] Grade E: Do not publish
[] Grade A: Excellent [] Grade B: Good [Y] Grade C: Fair [] Grade D: No novelty
[] Grade A: Excellent [] Grade B: Good [Y] Grade C: Fair [] Grade D: No creativity or innovation



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Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	[] Grade A: Excellent [] Grade B: Good [Y] Grade C: Fair [] Grade D: No scientific significance
Language quality	[] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[] Accept (High priority) [] Accept (General priority) [Y] Minor revision [] Major revision [] Rejection
Re-review	[]Yes [Y]No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

kindly revise the language editing you need to discuss the clinical application of the used marker and its significance.



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Reviewer's code: 03738573 Position: Peer Reviewer Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-01-17

Reviewer chosen by: Geng-Long Liu

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-02-17 12:21

Reviewer performed review: 2023-02-27 15:34

Review time: 10 Days and 3 Hours

Scientific quality Good	
[] Grade D: Fair [] Grade E: Do not publish	
Novelty of this manuscript [] Grade A: Excellent [] Grade B: Good [Y] Grade C: [] Grade D: No novelty	Fair
Creativity or innovation of [] Grade A: Excellent [] Grade B: Good [Y] Grade C:	Fair
this manuscript [] Grade D: No creativity or innovation	



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Re-review	[Y]Yes []No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this study, the authors reported that the highly expressed GMEB1 facilitates HCC progression by promoting the transcription of the YAP1 promoter region. 1. Abstract: "GMEB1 facilitated the malignant biological behaviors of HCC cells", the authors should make it clear what kind of malignant biological behaviors did GMEB1 promote in HCC, given that malignant behavior is a very broad term. 2. Introduction: the research background of HCC needs to be enriched with more statistics, such as the morbidity and mortality values. What is the link between GMEB1 and YAP1? It seems that the authors introduce the two molecules independently, without making the association clear. Additionally, the importance of GMEB1 in cancer development needs to be introduced more deeply. 3. Result: Firstly, the results at multiple levels indicate that GMEB1 is highly expressed in HCC tissues and cells compared to para-cancer tissues and normal human hepatocytes. Based on these findings, the authors thought that "GMEB1 plays a cancer-facilitating part in HCC progression." However, it does not allow us to conclude that GMEB1 play a pro-tumor part in HCC progression. The authors may consider a different statement to summarize these results. Secondly, "GMEB1 facilitates the



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malignancy of HCC cell line", this conclusion is too vague. Lastly, the authors should add the analysis of the experimental results in each part. 4. All the functional experiments were performed only in vitro assays. Therefore, the mechanistically importance of GMEB1 in HCC progression has not been fully validated. 5. The manuscript requires some wording and grammar revisions. For example: "Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) is a digestive system malignancy with high morbidity in clinical practice". "Cell counting kit-8 method, Transwell and flow cytometry assays were utilized". "Some limitations exit in the present work".