

Dear editors,

We thank you very much for giving us an opportunity to revise our manuscript, we appreciate editor and reviewers very much for their positive comments and constructive suggestions on our manuscript entitled “Long non-coding RNA LINC01268 promotes EMT, invasion and metastasis of gastric cancer cells via the PI3K/Akt signaling pathway and targeting MARCKS”

We have studied reviewer's comments carefully and have made revision. And we have tried our best to revise our manuscript according to the comments. The responses to the reviewer's comments are as follows.

Responds to the reviewer's comments:

Reviewer #1:

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Minor revision

Specific Comments to Authors: The authors demonstrated that long non-coding LINC01268 promotes EMT, invasion and metastasis of gastric cancer cells. The expression level of LINC01268 is higher in N1-3 group than in N0 group. Figure legend may be revised to clarify the differences between N1-3 and N0 more clearly.

Response: We appreciate you giving us some positive ideas in this paper. We have modified this part according to your comments. Thank you again.

Reviewer #2:

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Minor revision

Specific Comments to Authors: Tang et al investigated the role of LINC01268 in GC. They observed higher expression of LINC01268 in GC tissues and cell

lines. They also found that LINC01268 expression was substantially linked with lymph node metastases, TNM stage, and tumor differentiation in GC patients. They also showed that aberrant LINC01268 expression stimulated the PI3K/Akt signaling pathway and enhanced EMT by targeting and modulating MARCKS, thus promoting GC invasion and metastasis. As a result, this author suggested that LINC01268 may be a key molecule for the development of GC and a potentially useful target for GC therapy. I found, that the topic is original and relevant in the field. The methodology is fine and no further control is required. I found the conclusion to be in line with the evidence and arguments presented. The references are well updated. The manuscript is interesting, however it can be improved and strengthened by addressing the following comments - An important study is missing (PMID: 36316351), the authors should cite this study. The caption of Figure 3 is a little confusing. The authors should rewrite it. Overall Nice Work!!

Response: Thank you for your instructive suggestions. We have cited this study (PMID: 36316351) in the discussion section following your suggestions. In addition, the caption of Figure 3 has been reasonably modified. Thank you again.