

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*

Manuscript NO: 84819

Title: Antitumor activity of miR-188-3p in gastric cancer is achieved by targeting CBL expression and inactivating the AKT/mTOR signaling

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03731081

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Russia

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-03-30

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-03-30 04:50

Reviewer performed review: 2023-04-04 16:10

Review time: 5 Days and 11 Hours

Scientific quality	☐ Grade A: Excellent ☐ Grade B: Very good ☒ Grade C: Good ☐ Grade D: Fair ☐ Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	☐ Grade A: Excellent ☒ Grade B: Good ☐ Grade C: Fair ☐ Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	☐ Grade A: Excellent ☒ Grade B: Good ☐ Grade C: Fair ☐ Grade D: No creativity or innovation

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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors presented an interesting manuscript. It is written on the basis of experimental studies and received clinical material of gastric cancer. The authors studied in their research the effect of antitumor activity of miR-188-3p in gastric cancer carcinogenesis. The molecular genetic impact of microRNAs has been proven for apoptosis, autophagy, and the process of cancer cell metastasis. The results of the study were confirmed on mice of a pure line. This research scientific is of great practical importance for clinical oncology. The results need to be used for the diagnosis of early gastric cancer and targeted therapy of this neoplasm. This scientific topic needs to be continued. The manuscript is recommended for publication.

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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05751232

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-03-30

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-04-06 01:38

Reviewer performed review: 2023-04-10 03:27

Review time: 4 Days and 1 Hour

Scientific quality	☐ Grade A: Excellent ☐ Grade B: Very good ☒ Grade C: Good ☐ Grade D: Fair ☐ Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	☐ Grade A: Excellent ☐ Grade B: Good ☒ Grade C: Fair ☐ Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	☐ Grade A: Excellent ☐ Grade B: Good ☒ Grade C: Fair ☐ Grade D: No creativity or innovation

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Conclusion	☐ Accept (High priority) ☐ Accept (General priority) ☒ Minor revision ☐ Major revision ☐ Rejection
Re-review	☐ Yes ☒ No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: ☒ Anonymous ☐ Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: ☐ Yes ☒ No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

本研究调查了 50 个胃癌和成对的正常组织 miR-188-3p 和 CBL 表达，研究证实了 miR-188-3p 在胃癌中的抗肿瘤活性。该研究在体外实验部分是初步的，需要进行更深入的研究，以促进 miR-188-3p 在癌症中的真正作用

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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03259512

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MSc, PhD

Professional title: Assistant Professor, Senior Researcher

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Australia

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-03-30

Reviewer chosen by: Geng-Long Liu

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-04-20 01:08

Reviewer performed review: 2023-04-20 02:24

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	☐ Grade A: Excellent ☐ Grade B: Very good ☒ Grade C: Good ☐ Grade D: Fair ☐ Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	☐ Grade A: Excellent ☒ Grade B: Good ☐ Grade C: Fair ☐ Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	☐ Grade A: Excellent ☒ Grade B: Good ☐ Grade C: Fair ☐ Grade D: No creativity or innovation

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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The study investigated the effects of miR-188-3p in gastric cancer tissues. The report provides ex vivo, in vitro, and in vivo data about manipulated expression levels of this miR. Authors concluded that miR-188-3p is a tumor suppressor gene according to the observed antitumor activity in gastric cancer tissues. The study is interesting and contains a lot of useful experimental information. Substantial amount of solid data is presented. Conclusion seems supported by the presented data. However, there are issues to be addressed. 1. Some English editing is required. The use of long sentences should be avoided. For instance, the sentence in the Abstract (Lines 55-56: "This study investigated miR-188-3p expression and its roles and underlying molecular events in gastric cancer") – can be improved and made easier for understanding. It should be (a suggestion): This study investigated miR-188-3p expression and its role in the regulation of gastric cancer (GC) growth. The underlying molecular events were targeted. 2. I recommend to avoid using phrases like "Towards this end,..." -line 98. Authors should use concise academic language. 3. Introduction may need to accent the role of epigenetic regulation as a promising therapeutic target in cancers. For instance, authors may check

this review <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35623562/> 4. Line 149 onwards: authors should cite relevant papers which used those cell lines, indicated in this section. Some cells lines are not well known. For instance, I could not find any references for BGCBGC-823. Overall, the methods section needs more citations. 5. Lines 240-244: authors should indicate catalogue numbers for all used antibodies. including GAPDH, β -actin, CBL , LC3, Beclin 1, mTOR, p-mTOR, Akt (C-terminal), and p-Akt (Ser473). The Cat# are essential information when others will try to repeat those experiments. 6. Immunohistochemistry (IHC) figures (Fig.2,4, and 6) are too small and hard to evaluate. Author should present all IHC tissue images separately using larger magnification. IHC provide the essential information about cancer cells and should be clearly presented. 7. Fig.2 A is very dark. It should be presented as a large version with a better quality. The authors tried to present more information, more data in one figure. This resulted in poorer quality of the presentation. Authors may need to extend the number of figures and present some data as Supplementary figures. However, the quality of images should be improved (images should be enlarged, magnification should be increased). Otherwise, the images are useless. 8. Discussion: the controversial role of autophagy should be discussed. Authors should indicate that autophagy may be activated during development of cancer resistance. Therefore, the complexity of autophagic pathway should be indicated.

RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*

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Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03259512

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MSc, PhD

Professional title: Assistant Professor, Senior Researcher

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Australia

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-03-30

Reviewer chosen by: Ji-Hong Liu

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-05-31 00:51

Reviewer performed review: 2023-05-31 01:10

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	☐ Grade A: Excellent ☐ Grade B: Very good ☒ Grade C: Good ☐ Grade D: Fair ☐ Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	☐ Grade A: Priority publishing ☒ Grade B: Minor language polishing ☐ Grade C: A great deal of language polishing ☐ Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	☐ Accept (High priority) ☒ Accept (General priority) ☐ Minor revision ☐ Major revision ☐ Rejection
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: ☒ Anonymous ☐ Onymous



**Baishideng
Publishing
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA
Telephone: +1-925-399-1568
E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
<https://www.wjgnet.com>

statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Thank you for addressing all my comments properly.