



**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 37076

**Title:** Metformin attenuates the motility and contraction of HSC, and fibrogenic response of HSC in vivo and in vitro via activating AMP-Activated Protein Kinase

**Reviewer's code:** 02998132

**Reviewer's country:** Japan

**Science editor:** Ze-Mao Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2017-11-21

**Date reviewed:** 2017-11-29

**Review time:** 7 Days

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This is an interesting manuscript about the effect of metformin on activated HSCs and the possible signaling pathways. In this manuscript, the fibrotic mouse model was induced by intraperitoneal injection with CCl4 and treated with or without metformin. The level of fibrosis was detected by Hematoxylin-Eosin stain and Sirius-Red stain. Expression of  $\alpha$ -SMA, Fibronectin and VEGF was measured by immunohistochemistry. The authors found that the mice developed obvious liver fibrosis after intraperitoneal injection with CCl4 for 6 weeks. Metformin decreased the activation of HSCs, reduced the deposition of ECM and inhibited angiogenesis in CCl4 treated mice. Metformin inhibited the activation of HSCs in a in a dose-dependent manner. They conclude that the metformin attenuates the fibrogenic response of HSCs in vivo and in vitro, so it can be used in the treatment of chronic liver diseases. Over all, this study is well designed



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and the results are interesting. However, the manuscript need an editing of the English. After this, it can be accepted for publication.



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**Reviewer's code:** 03016160

**Reviewer's country:** Pakistan

**Science editor:** Ze-Mao Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2017-11-21

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**Review time:** 9 Days

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> [ Y ] Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> [ Y ] Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> [ ] High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> [ Y ] Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> [ ] Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> [ ] Minor revision
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		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> [ Y ] No	

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Very interesting study. No comments. Some minor language mistakes should be revised.