

Dear reviewers,

Thank you very much for your consideration, and we really appreciate the comments and have learned a lot. Appropriate changes were made and highlighted in the revised manuscript according to the suggestions of reviewers and editor.

Reviewer 1

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

Answer:

Thank you very much for your comments. This manuscript was edited for proper English language, grammar, punctuation, spelling, and overall style by one or more of the highly qualified native English speaking editors at American Journal Experts. The editorial certificate will be uploaded with the revised manuscript. I hope the revised manuscript will meet the requirements of academic publishing in World Journal of Gastroenterology.

Reviewer 2

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

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

Answer:

Thank you for your recognition. The manuscript was edited by native English speaking editor at American Journal Experts, and I have revised my manuscript according to the suggestions of the professional editor. Thanks again for the reminder.

Answers to editor

Dear editor,

Thank you very much for your work on my manuscript. I have revised the manuscript according to your suggestions. The changes were highlighted in the revised manuscript.

1. Please provide language certificate letter by professional English language editing companies (Classification of manuscript language quality evaluation is B).

Answer: This manuscript was edited for proper English language, grammar, punctuation, spelling, and overall style by one or more of the highly qualified native English speaking editors at American Journal Experts. The editorial certificate will be uploaded with the revised manuscript. I hope the revised manuscript will meet the requirements of academic publishing in World Journal of Gastroenterology.

2. Manuscript number has been added.

3. Please revise and perfect your manuscript according to peer-reviewers' comments.

Answer: The comments from the peer-reviewers are very useful for the improvement of our manuscript. The manuscript has been edited by professional editor at American Journal Experts. We had revised the manuscript, and the changes were highlighted.

4. You need to provide the grant application form(s) or certificate of funding agency for every grant, or we will delete the part of "Supported by...".

Answer: The certificate of funding agency of the grant mentioned in the manuscript will be uploaded with the revised manuscript.

5. The “Methods” and “Results” section in the abstract were simplified according to the editor’s suggestion.
6. Audio core tips will be uploaded with the revised manuscript.
7. All authors abbreviation names and manuscript title were added to the manuscript as required.
8. Article highlights was added to the manuscript.
9. Please check that there are no repeated references!

Answer: We confirmed that there were no repeated references.

10. Please provide the decomposable figure of Figures, whose parts are movable and editable. So please put the original picture as ppt so that we can edit them easily.

Answer: The Figures were corrected according to the editor’s suggestion. The original pictures were put as ppt, and the ppt format will be uploaded with the revised manuscript.