



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 61946

**Title:** How far along are we in revealing the connection between metformin and colorectal cancer?

**Reviewer's code:** 03714053

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** FRCS (Ed), MBBS

**Professional title:** Doctor, Senior Lecturer

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Singapore

**Author's Country/Territory:** Croatia

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-12-23

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jin-Lei Wang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-01-21 01:49

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-01-22 18:36

**Review time:** 1 Day and 16 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Overall, this is a well-written article, with the major topics discussed regarding colorectal cancer and metformin use. General: Is there any consideration given to performing a systematic review instead of a scoping review? 1. Could the authors provide more scientific evidence regarding the proposed mechanism that metformin reduces the risk of colorectal cancer. The mTOR pathway is mentioned, but more details need to be given regarding specific pathways, and also, to non-basic science readers, they may not understand this significance of the mTOR pathway so it should really be explicitly spelt out. 2. Would the authors consider some diagrams? I could suggest one to delineate the mechanism. 3. It would also be good to summarise the papers which discuss metformin as chemoprevention and adjuvant treatment in tables to make it clearer to readers and to break the monotony of paragraphs of words. 4. A lot of focus is given to discussing the good effects of metformin. Are there any side effects? In particular, would you give metformin to patients who are non-diabetics as chemoprevention?



### PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 61946

**Title:** How far along are we in revealing the connection between metformin and colorectal cancer?

**Reviewer's code:** 03017551

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Poland

**Author's Country/Territory:** Croatia

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-12-23

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jin-Lei Wang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-01-21 08:15

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-02-04 13:11

**Review time:** 14 Days and 4 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
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#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

First - the interesting comparison of data from various studies, Second - the researchers suggested the role of metformin in the prevention of development of CRC, Third - no randomized trials,