

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 88774

Title: Metadherin promotes stem cell phenotypes and correlated with immune infiltration in hepatocellular carcinoma

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05048160

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-10-08

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-10-27 07:28

Reviewer performed review: 2023-10-27 16:18

Review time: 8 Hours

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|---|---|
| Scientific quality | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="radio"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="radio"/> Grade C: Good <input type="radio"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="radio"/> Grade E: Do not publish |
| Novelty of this manuscript | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="radio"/> Grade B: Good <input type="radio"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="radio"/> Grade D: No novelty |
| Creativity or innovation of this manuscript | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="radio"/> Grade B: Good <input type="radio"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="radio"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation |

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| Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance |
| Language quality | <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 |
| Conclusion | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection |
| Re-review | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Peer-reviewer statements | Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous |
| | Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This very well conducted and presented study demonstrates the role and mechanisms of Metadherin (MTDH) is driving hepatocellular carcinoma progression , metastasis and poor prognosis. Furthermore they demonstrate that its known amorlates these characteristics. These findings will provide additional information for further understanding of the prognosis and treatment of HCC patients and could probbaly be translated to other tumor types. The English is quite good with only a few problems here and there as illustrated here: Abstract: "MTDH (Metadherin) has been suggested as to be one of the key oncogenes in most cancer types" "MTDH could promote stemness enhancement in HCC cells, and high expression of MTDH may resist cancer immunotherapy" -Actually the demonstrates that it does promote stemness so please remove the word "could" The study results of Yoo BK et al. showed that MTDH expression gradually increased with phase I-IV and from high differentiation to low differentiation. - there is no reference number Figure lengens: Figure legends Also the figure just under this title is too small and there is no indication of just what it represents Figure 1 MTDH overexpression has been is linked to a worse prognosis in HCC. This

figure shows that it is linked These small problems occur throughout the manuscript, so please have someone go over it again to correct them After that, this excellent manuscript is ready to be published