

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



September 15, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format.

Title: Targeting the tumor stroma in hepatocellular carcinoma

Author: Femke Heindryckx, Pär Gerwins

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Hepatology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 12580

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

- (1) Provided more mechanistical details about the effects of therapeutics discussed.
- (2) A scheme containing signaling pathways visualizing where and how the drugs discussed interfere has been added
- (3) A summarizing list of all trials mentioned, their current state and if any results are already (publically) available is added to the manuscript
- (4) More options are discussed on how targeting several actors of the stromal environment and the tumor cells at the same time could be the key for optimal treatment in future therapies
- (5) The references suggested by the reviewers have been added.
- (6) CTGF is discussed as an important mediator of cell cell communication between HSCs and hepatocytes/HCC cell

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for considering publication of our manuscript in the *World Journal of Hepatology*.

Sincerely yours,

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