

First Reviewers

1. MGC-803 cell line was used in all the cell line assays in this manuscript. The authors should show the effects of paeoniflorin on normal gastric mucosa cell lines (GES-1).

We checked that the effects of paeoniflorin on normal gastric mucosa cell lines (GES-1) after 48 h (Figure. 2B).

2. The authors have showed that the anticancer effects of paeoniflorin on MGC-803 cells. The authors should consider the different roles of paeoniflorin when the gastric carcinoma cell line changes.

We checked that the effects of paeoniflorin on the cell cytotoxic and the apoptosis (DAPI staining) of MGC-803 cells (Figure. 3 and Figure. 4B).

3. The authors have mentioned that miR-124 regulates and controls the expression of PI3K, Akt and phospho-Akt in MGC-803 cells. The authors could add more assays to show which is miR-124 target gene in this signaling pathway.

We checked that the effects of paeoniflorin on phospho-STAT3 of MGC-803 cells (Figure. 8).

4. Regarding qPCR analysis, the authors do not describe which housekeeping gene was used and do not include the sequence of the primers utilized.

MiR-124-forward: 5'-GCGGCCGTGTTACAGCGGACC-3' and
miR-124-reverse: 5'-GTGCAGGGTCCGAGGT-3'. U6- forward:
5'-CGCTTCGGCAGCACATATACTA-3'; and U6- reverse:
5'-CGCTTCACGAATTTGCGTGTC.