



10th June, 2016

Dear Mr. Yuan Qi,  
Science Editor, Editorial Office  
Baishideng Publishing Group Inc.

Dear sir:

Thank you very much for your letter of May 12, 2016, regarding our manuscript, "Supportive therapy for hepatocellular carcinoma: current status and prospects; my ID (01560721)", and the valuable comments from the reviewer.

We carefully addressed the issue raised by the reviewer, and attached a point-by-point response to the reviewers' comments. I am enclosing here with the revised manuscript in accordance with the reviewer's comments. Our incorporation of the reviewers' suggestions is included in the detailed response to reviewers, and the changed parts of the manuscript were changed into the red.

**Reply to the Reviewer's comments:**

We sincerely appreciate the both reviewer for valuable and considerable comments, which are helpful for us to significantly improve our paper. We have addressed the issues, and have revised the manuscript accordingly, as described below. We sincerely hope that our reply will satisfy the concerns expressed by the reviewers, and that the revision meets your approval.

**Reviewer #1 (Reviewer's code: 00043561)**

1, This review article focuses primarily on "protective" role of some non-medical and medical therapies in terms of recurrence in HCC. The title could be modified to be less general because only a book chapter can cover such a large title.

Reply: Thank you very much for your valuable suggestion. We would like to change the title from "Supportive therapy for hepatocellular carcinoma: current status and prospects" to "Supportive therapies for prevention of hepatocellular



carcinoma and preservation of liver function”.

2, The abstract (here core tips?) should be more informative about the review outline. Article outline is appropriate.

Reply: Thank you very much for your valuable comment. We modified and polish-up the abstract section including informative review outline.

3, I guess this work can be shortened at least by 20-30% after removal of repetitions in the body and conclusions, and removing unnecessary (double or triple) references.

Reply: Thank you very much for your valuable comment. We removed repetitions in the manuscript to reduce the volume.

4, Another critical issue is the missing references. Examples include; 1. Sorafenib is a kinase inhibitor and a standard therapy in the treatment of advanced HCC. 2. Peretinoin is a vitamin A-like molecule that targets the retinoid nuclear receptor to induce apoptosis and inhibit tumor growth in HCC cells. 3. ...mechanism of action, it has been reported that BCAA activates the insulin signal cascade through upregulation of phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase.

Reply: Thank you very much for your valuable comment. We put adequate reference in each sentence.

5, Abbreviations should be used at their first appearance.

Reply: Thank you very much for your valuable comment. We spell out abbreviations at the first use, such as BMI, HOMA-IR, ALT.

**Reviewer #2 (Reviewer's code: 02445121)**

Thank you very much for your acceptance of our submitted paper.

Sincerely,



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*Department of Gastroenterology & Hepatology*

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