

**The Editorial Board**  
**World Journal of Clinical Oncology****27779**

DATE:

04-11-16

YOUR REFERENCE:

Dear Sir/Madam,

My co-author and I respectfully resubmit our revised manuscript entitled “NDRG2 gene copy number is not altered in colorectal carcinoma” for consideration for publication in *World Journal of Clinical Oncology*. We have revised the manuscript according to the reviewers’ comments:

**Reviewer’s code: 03472666**

*We are pleased that the reviewer is positive about our study.*

**Reviewer’s code: 02534438**

1. Table 1 presents the mRNA levels for *NDRG2* normalised to  $\beta$ -actin. Whereas all samples were analysed in technical triplicates, only the control human colon was analysed in different individuals – therefore the standard deviation presented for the control human colon refers to this individual-to-individual variation for 15 individuals. This is now clarified in the table text.
2. The p-values stated in table 3 are calculated from the data in supplementary table S2 and not from the contingency table format in table 3. This is now clarified in the table text.
3. The choice of statistical test depends on whether or not there is equal variance, tested with the F-test. We have now added this explanation to the “Statistic Analysis” section under Materials and Methods: “An unpaired two-tailed t-test was used to compare the means of normal-distributed data for the two groups (normal vs. tumor). The null hypothesis is that there is no difference between the two groups. When data of the two groups did not have equal variance, by F-test analysis, we used a Mann-Whitney test.”

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4. To clarify, we have now written "Data are presented as mean (filled bars) and SD (whiskers)." in the figure text for figure 2.

**Reviewer's code: 03373528**

5. The "n=15" is now replaced by "for the mean  $\pm$  standard deviation for 15 individuals" in the text for Table 1.
6. Please see point 3 above.
7. We have now removed 8 of the older references from 1999-2010 and added 14 new references from 2010-2016. In addition, we have included the most up-to-date information about the tumor-suppressor function of NDRG2 in the Introduction.

We look forward to hearing from you about the suitability of our revised manuscript for publication in *World Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

Yours Sincerely,

Cathy Mitchelmore, Ph.D.

(Corresponding author)