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## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 32657

**Title:** STAT3 deficiency prevents hepatocarcinogenesis and promotes biliary proliferation in thioacetamide-induced liver injury

**Reviewer's code:** 02716315

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Jing Yu

**Date sent for review:** 2017-02-23

**Date reviewed:** 2017-02-24

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It is very written manuscript and need Minor revision. Fig1B and D seems no statistical significance, the data need to be revised. Fig1A and C, Fig2A, Fig3A and B, Fig4A and Fig5C need add bar.



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**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 32657

**Title:** STAT3 deficiency prevents hepatocarcinogenesis and promotes biliary proliferation in thioacetamide-induced liver injury

**Reviewer's code:** 02395273

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Jing Yu

**Date sent for review:** 2017-02-23

**Date reviewed:** 2017-03-02

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors provided evidence showing that STAT3 may mediate carcinogen-induced HCC in mouse model. Hepatocyte-specific deletion of STAT3 reduced compensatory proliferation and cancer formation in response to TAA. Additional test indicated that deficiency of STAT3 enhanced YAP activation and SOX9 expression, which may contribute to the enhanced formation of biliary ductular structures. The manuscript was well-written; the results are straightforward. However, some weaknesses need to be addressed. 1. Please provided genotyping data of the hepatocytes/liver tissues of wt and STAT3dhep; 2. The discussion should be shortened with an emphasis on how STAT3 signal is linked to SOX9/YAP. structure formation