

Dear editor,

Thank you very much for your letter and advice. We have revised the paper, and would like to re-submit it for your consideration. We have addressed the comments raised by the reviewers, and the revision is highlighted **in red** in the revised manuscript.

We hope that the revision is acceptable, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Xi-Hong Wang

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

### Review's comments

This is a good job regarding the role of miR-29a on HBV proliferation. This laborious study contains enough data on the mechanism of miR-29a, and clearly indicates that increase of miR-29a promotes HBV replication and expression via suppression of cellular transcription modulator SMARCE1 in hepatoma carcinoma cell lines. Furthermore, this article indicates that miR-29a inhibits translation of SMARCE, but not transcription.

Minor points

1. The data were expressed as mean + SD. How much number of times did these experiments repeat? Please list the number of times in each experiment.

Thanks for your comments. We have added the number of times these experiments repeat in each figure legend.

2. HbsAg, HbeAg should be unified to HBsAg, HBeAg.

Thank you very much for your suggestion. We have changed HbsAg and HbeAg to HBsAg and HBeAg, respectively.

### Editor's comments

3. The title must be informative, specific, and brief (Title should be no more than 10~12 words/60 bytes. Please revise it). Words should be chosen carefully for retrieval purposes. All nonfunctional words should be deleted, such as 'the', 'studies on', 'observations of', and 'roles of', *etc.*

Thanks for your advice. We have changed the title to "miR-29a promotes HBV replication and expression by targeting SMARCE1 in hepatoma carcinoma".

4. Please add the province.

Thanks for your comments. We have added the province as suggested.

5 The format of this section should be like this:

Author contributions: Wang CL and Liang L contributed equally to this work; Wang CL, Liang L, Fu JF, Zou CC, Hong F and Wu XM designed research; Wang CL, Zou CC, Hong F and Wu XM performed research; Xue Jz and Lu JR contributed new reagents/analytic tools; Wang CL, Liang L and Fu JF analyzed data; and Wang CL, Liang L and Fu JF wrote the paper.

Thank you very much for your suggestion. We have changed the format of this section as advised.

6 Please add these content, which must be provided, otherwise the manuscript will be unaccepted finally.

Thanks for your comments. We have added these content as mentioned.

7 Only one corresponding address should be provided. Author names should be given first, then author title, affiliation, the complete name of institution, city, postcode, province, country, and email. Thank you!

Thanks for your comments. We have changed the corresponding address as suggested.

8 An informative, structured abstract of no less than 246 words should accompany each original article. The Abstract will be structured into the following sections and adhering to the word count thresholds indicated in parentheses.

Thanks for your comments. We have changed the abstract as advised.

9 Please write a summary of no more than 100 words to present the core content of your manuscript, highlighting the most innovative and important findings and/or arguments. The

purpose of the Core Tip is to attract readers' interest for reading the full version of your article and increasing the impact of your article in your field of study.

Thanks for your comments. We have added the core tip.

10 Please read the core tip then provide the audio core tip: Acceptable file formats: .mp3, .wav, or .aiff Maximum file size: 10 MB To achieve the best quality, don't allow to have the noise.

Thanks for your comments. We have added the audio core tip.