

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



September 12, 2012

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 4821-review.doc).

Title: The stages based molecular mechanisms for generating cholangiocytes from liver stem/progenitor cells

Author: *Wei-hui Liu, Li-na Ren, Tao Chen, Li-ye Liu, Li-jun Tang*

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 4821

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

(1) **Question: General Comments:** This is a very thorough review with collective information regarding this field. The presentation of the manuscript is detailed and structured. There is no innovation or novelty, since this is a review. However, authors could improve the importance of their manuscript if they could provide more information and more details regarding the insights about the future applications of these basic science findings. This would also make the manuscript more interesting for the clinicians, since they constitute the great percentage of readers of this journal.

Answer: We wish to thank the reviewer for the encouraging comments. Actually, the reviewer has raised very important issues for improving our manuscript. According to the reviewer's suggestion, we would like to add some information and more details regarding the insights of future application of the related basic science progression. Please find the addition to our revised manuscript with red colored tracks. The details are as following.

(2) **Question: Specific Comments: Core Tip:** The section "Core Tip" should be more focused on the description of the review nature of the manuscript. The information that is provided in the "Core Tip" is somehow misleading, as well as, not well understood. Also, the content of this section raises a lot of questions that are not addressed in the manuscript.

Answer: We thank the reviewer for his/her kind reminder that our "Core Tip" was not in good situation. We agree with the reviewer, it is better to make the section of "Core Tip" clearer and more reasonable. In addition, we have rewritten the "Core Tip" section and made it more scientific strictly according to the content in the whole manuscript. Thanks for the reviewer's kind help again.

(3) **Question: Cover Letter:** There is a date of 2004 in the cover letter. No comment for the rest of the cover letter, since it is not going to be published.

Answer: We are very sorry for our careless mistake in the cover letter. In the revised submission, we have amended the wrong date of 2004 to 2013.

(4) **Question: Editing Certificate:** This certificate corresponds to a manuscript with different title and additional authors.

Answer: Thanks for the reviewer's kind reminder. We have noticed the difference. It is because we amended the manuscript after receiving the polished manuscript from the editing company. In addition, for publication in WJG it is requested the title is less than 12 words, thus, we must change our formal title to "The stages based molecular mechanisms for generating cholangiocytes from liver stem/progenitor cells". Because after discussion, the authors Hong-tao Yan and Kai-shan Tao are not enough to be an author for this manuscript, we all contributors agree to make "Wei-hui Liu, Li-na Ren, Tao Chen, Li-ye Liu, Li-jun Tang" as authors.

(5) Question: Section: "2 The progression of cholangiocytic differentiation" The phrase: "Bile ducts are formed only around the portal vein" should be consider to change to "Bile ducts are formed only around the portal vein" or to "Bile ducts are formed only around the portal side".

Answer: We appreciate the reviewer's rigorous attitude and scientific spirit. According to the reviewer's advice, we have changed the above mentioned sentence to "Bile ducts are formed only around the portal side".

(6) Question: Section: "Conclusions and Future Directions" It is considered that this section should be extended, providing more information about the future directions and applications of the previously mentioned in the manuscript knowledge.

Answer: The reviewer raised a very good issue. Just as the reviewer mentioned in the general comments, it is necessary to provide more information in the future use of the basic findings. Especially, in the Section of "Conclusions and Future Directions", we should give more instructions for promoting the researching progression of induced cholangiocytic differentiation from liver stem cells. In the revised manuscript, we try to add some guidelines for future research work.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

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