

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 62997

Title: Repurposing metformin for the treatment of gastrointestinal cancer

Reviewer's code: 02446805

Position: Associate Editor

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Assistant Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: Brazil

Manuscript submission date: 2021-01-22

Reviewer chosen by: Ya-Juan Ma

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-01-30 23:49

Reviewer performed review: 2021-01-30 23:58

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	[<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Grade A: Excellent [<input type="radio"/>] Grade B: Very good [<input type="radio"/>] Grade C: Good [<input type="radio"/>] Grade D: Fair [<input type="radio"/>] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Grade A: Priority publishing [<input type="radio"/>] Grade B: Minor language polishing [<input type="radio"/>] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [<input type="radio"/>] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Accept (High priority) [<input type="radio"/>] Accept (General priority) [<input type="radio"/>] Minor revision [<input type="radio"/>] Major revision [<input type="radio"/>] Rejection
Re-review	[<input type="radio"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Anonymous [<input type="radio"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="radio"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] No



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a very excellent review that should be published. Acceptance in WJG is highly recommended.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 62997

Title: Repurposing metformin for the treatment of gastrointestinal cancer

Reviewer's code: 05262990

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Brazil

Manuscript submission date: 2021-01-22

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-01-29 00:05

Reviewer performed review: 2021-01-31 17:15

Review time: 2 Days and 17 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this manuscript, the authors aim to reviews the current findings on the anti-cancer mechanisms of metformin and its apparatus from pre-clinical and ongoing studies in gastrointestinal (GI) malignancies. The review article has certain scientific significance and application value. However, there are several concerns for this manuscript is needed for improvement. 1. I think the word “gastrointestinal tumors” may change into “digestive system tumors”. 2. The manuscript lack their insights/comments about studies on this field in future. What's their ideas about roles of metformin in development/diagnosis/clinica treatments of gastrointestinal tumors. 3. The manuscript should provide information about shortage of current studies on metformin and cancers. I am not sure if the authors are doing researches on this field or just write a review about this topic.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 62997

Title: Repurposing metformin for the treatment of gastrointestinal cancer

Reviewer's code: 03104467

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Brazil

Manuscript submission date: 2021-01-22

Reviewer chosen by: Ya-Juan Ma

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-01-28 10:54

Reviewer performed review: 2021-02-02 01:36

Review time: 4 Days and 14 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors review the rationale of metformin as a drug repurposed for cancer treatment along with the clinical research about metformin in GI cancers. For me, the review is well-organized and interesting. It provides a comprehensive summarize of clinical research about metformin in GI cancers. However, some concerns should be addressed before acceptance. 1. There are numerous papers that have focused on the roles of metformin in cancer and GI cancers. The authors should highlight the novelty of this review and provide some new opinion on this field. 2. The section for outlook or perspective of the metformin in GI cancers is limited. Please give more examples in detail. 3. The content are well-performed. However, for "3.1 Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma (ICC) and Gallbladder Cancer (GBC)", it may be confusing to express the original meaning.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 62997

Title: Repurposing metformin for the treatment of gastrointestinal cancer

Reviewer's code: 03728255

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Brazil

Manuscript submission date: 2021-01-22

Reviewer chosen by: Ya-Juan Ma

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-01-31 13:47

Reviewer performed review: 2021-02-09 15:05

Review time: 9 Days and 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear editor, I appreciate the chance to review the manuscript, which focused on an interesting topic: Repurposing metformin for the treatment of gastrointestinal cancer. I have some questions listed as below. 1. The part of the mechanism of metformin as an anti-cancer agent is too long. The author should better shorten it. 2. Some clinical trials were mentioned in the manuscript to demonstrate that metformin showed anti-cancer agent. What are the clinical features of these trials, such as inclusion criteria, prospective or retrospective study. 3. The overall survival is influenced by many factors, such as types of tumours, differentiation of the type, neoplasm staging and treatment. It is difficult to demonstrate that metformin plays roles in it. 4. If the author could make a meta-analysis for the cohort studies, it may be more convincing.