

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*

**Manuscript NO:** 70923

**Title:** Circular RNAs in hepatocellular carcinoma: Recent advances

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 04770380

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** DSc, PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Russia

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-08-19

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-08-19 14:55

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-08-28 19:18

**Review time:** 9 Days and 4 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<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
<b>Conclusion</b>	<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
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous

statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript entitled “Circular RNAs in hepatocellular carcinoma: Recent advances” by Zhao-Shan Niu and Wen-Hong Wang submitted to the “World Journal of Gastroenterology” focuses on the discussion of recent advancements in the investigation of circRNAs and their roles in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). The manuscript is well-written and well-organized and can be of interest to the journal readers. However, there are some concerns and recommendations that can improve the quality of the manuscript. 1. The manuscript mechanistically lists the circRNAs involved in HCC regulation. Instead, it is recommended to discuss in more detail their biogenesis and mechanisms of their functioning (such as the involvement in circRNA-miRNA-mRNA regulatory axes and interaction with RBPs). 2. Consequently, it is recommended to include more (2-3) Figures to illustrate these mechanisms. 3. In the “Role of circRNAs in HCC” section, it is recommended to discuss not only single circRNAs but regulatory axes in which they are involved. This helps to a more comprehensive discussion of their role in hepatocarcinogenesis and underlying mechanisms. For example, it is not clear from the manuscript, what are the mechanisms underlying the involvement of circRNAs in drug resistance, i.e., what genes are regulated. 4. In Table 1, it is recommended to add gene names that are under the control of a circRNA where it is applicable. 5. Refs should be checked since some of them were not properly cited; for example, Ref. [3] does not discuss circRNA functions and Ref. [4] should be changed because it does not discuss genetic/epigenetic and posttranslational regulation of circRNAs. Instead of Ref [12] the following paper can be discussed: Zhao X, Cai Y, Xu J. Circular RNAs: Biogenesis, Mechanism, and Function in Human Cancers. *Int J Mol Sci*. 2019 Aug 13;20(16):3926. doi: 10.3390/ijms20163926. So on.

## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*

**Manuscript NO:** 70923

**Title:** Circular RNAs in hepatocellular carcinoma: Recent advances

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 04770380

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** DSc, PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Russia

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-08-19

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jing-Jie Wang (Online Science Editor)

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-01-07 14:31

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-01-07 15:02

**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	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 have properly addressed all my comments