

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 73105

Title: Long noncoding RNA NRAV contributes to pancreatic cancer progression via targeting miR-299-3p

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05246699

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MSc, PhD

Professional title: Academic Research

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Iran

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-11-09

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-11-23 08:12

Reviewer performed review: 2021-11-24 06:43

Review time: 22 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 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
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="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

The research article entitled "Long noncoding RNA NRAV contributes to pancreatic cancer progression via targeting miR-299-3p" is well structured and clear without major gross errors. The authors performed extensive bioinformatic analysis and real-time PCR, and identified the lncRNA NRAV and microRNA (miR)-299-3p that would contribute to pancreatic cancer progression. This research article also appears to be interesting, but there are many flaws and concerns on it. 1. Some references missing. For example "An extremely aggressive malignancy, pancreatic cancer (PC) has shown a rapidly increasing incidence rate in recent years worldwide" 2. I suggest including clear limitations of the study in the discussion. I suggest drawing a figure for explaining the data. It will help to understand the findings.

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Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 00227505

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-11-09

Reviewer chosen by: Xin Liu (Online Science Editor)

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-02-28 23:01

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-01 06:14

Review time: 7 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

Comments to the Author The manuscript entitled “Long noncoding RNA NRAV contributes to pancreatic cancer progression via targeting miR-299-3p” has been reviewed. The manuscript is organized and well written. Obviously, a lot of careful work has gone into this project. This is an interesting and potentially important paper. On the other hand, in 2016, the US National Cancer Institute has declared to stop screening most drugs using the panel of human cancer cell lines grown in culture. So, they recommended to refocus its drug screening on patient-derived xenografts by implanting small chunks of human tumors in mice. One drawback of this manuscript is that the analysis was done mostly in vitro. In addition, there is no description how we use NRAV in our clinical setting since the present study was still preliminary project.

•How about the overall survival of mice in the experiment for Figure4? As the authors know, tumor size is not only crucial factor in pancreatic cancer. An environment of cancer influences the development of cancer and invasion. •The authors described the following “these results demonstrated that NRAV might act as an oncogene and could be used as a new biological marker and therapeutic target in PC”. How much the expression level of NRAV in human pancreatic cancer patient? Almost of the pancreatic cancer patient express NRAV? The expression of CA19-9 and Span-1 are around 70-80% in pancreatic cancer patient. How about NRAV? It is incomplete, but potentially important paper if the authors added some comments in discussion section.

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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 02726183

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: FACS, MD, PhD

Professional title: Director, Full Professor, Surgeon

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Serbia

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-11-09

Reviewer chosen by: Xin Liu (Online Science Editor)

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-01 06:18

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-02 14:25

Review time: 1 Day and 8 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
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Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



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Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [<input type="checkbox"/>] Anonymous [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="checkbox"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Interesting piece of investigation. With hope, that results can improve the treatment of PC.

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Reviewer's code: 01557283

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Surgeon

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-11-09

Reviewer chosen by: Xin Liu (Online Science Editor)

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-01 00:23

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-12 01:31

Review time: 11 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
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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

Summary of the manuscript. The authors performed a lot of experiments to specify the significant role of the long noncoding RNA NRAV in pancreatic cancer progression. They strictly analyzed the data, but the explanation of the figures seemed confusing. The authors should provide easily understandable figure legends. Major comments.

Abstract. 1. Pancreatic cancer (PC) includes several types of carcinoma. The author should use “pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC)” instead of “PC”. 2. MicroRNA (miR)-299-3p appeared suddenly. The author should explain the role of the miR-299-3p.

3. Results. The analysis of clinical survival of PDAC patients using TCGA data base was not described in the Methods.

Introduction. 1. The author should explain the role of the miR-299-3p.

Materials and methods. 1. Are the cell lines, PANC-1, AsPC-1, Mia Paca-2 and BxPC-3 all derived from pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma? 2. The analysis of clinical survival of PDAC patients using TCGA data base was not described in the Methods. How did the authors divide the low NRAV and high NRAV group? In addition, the fig.1C was hard to understand.