

## ANSWERING REVIEWERS



March 11, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 7500-review.doc).

**Title:** Immune reaction and colorectal cancer: friends or foes?

**Author:** Vincenzo Formica, Vittore Cereda, Antonella Nardecchia, Manfredi Tesauro, Mario Roselli

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 7500

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers. Reply to the three reviewers are below reported:

### Reviewer 1:

In the present comprehensive review, the authors have attempted to summarize the current evidence in regard to the contributory role of immune system in pathogenesis of colorectal cancer. Although the review is comprehensive, several issues arise:

1. In the introduction section, the authors present two potential scenarios in regard to the role of immune system in the pathogenesis of colorectal cancer: a. inflammation can cause cancer and b. cancer can cause inflammation. In the following sections the reader would expect to find structured information on these two basic axes. Unfortunately, the organization of the text is poor in its present form and subsections in each basic axis would be desirable (eg. the separate description of the role of innate receptors, cells and cytokines for each axis).

*Re:* Two main sections on the two basic axes have been identified and entitled 1) **IMMUNITY AND CRC DEVELOPMENT** and 2) **CRC-INDUCED IMMUNE RESPONSES**, subsections regarding receptors, cells and cytokines have also been added for the sake of clarity

2. The use of tables and figures would be helpful.

*Re:* a table and a figure have been added

3. All TLR receptors are not transmembrane.

*Re:* the term transmembrane has been changed with the term membrane-bound. We are not aware of human TLRs that are not membrane bound

4. Several typos and grammatical errors are present throughout the manuscript (e.g. receptors instead of recepters, did not evaluated instead of did not evaluate, mesenchymal instead of mesenchimal etc)

Re Typo and grammatical errors have been corrected

5. The key findings of distinct studies should be presented. p-values are not required.

Re p-values have been removed leaving study key findings

#### Reviewer 2

This is a good work in the area of CRC reseaech. Anyway,there are still some minor mistakes:

1.In the part of "INTRUDUCTION",line 2, "recoded" should be "recorded"

Typo error has been corrected

2.In page 13, last paragagh, line 3, "cancer clearance should be "cancer clearance"

The error has been corrected

3.In page 10, paragagh 1, works by Dupaul-Chicoine et al should be listed in references.

Reference of the study by Dupaul-Chicoine has been reported (ref 39)

4.In same page, line 18, "has been" should be "is"

The error has been corrected

#### Reviewer 3

The authors summarized the immune relation/reaction between colorectal tumor and host. This paper is well organized and well written, and has a novel finding in the field of gastroenterology and immunology. I believe that the findings of this review will be of special interest to the readers of this journal.

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

Sincerely yours,



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