

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 75445

Title: Comprehensive evaluation of microRNA as a biomarker for the diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05774393

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Assistant Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Egypt

Author's Country/Territory: Germany

Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-28

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-02-12 11:37

Reviewer performed review: 2022-02-12 14:35

Review time: 2 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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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

-How miRNA combined with PIVKA have a diagnostic relevance while the same miRNA combined with AFP do not have. you have mentioned that the three best partners for PIVKA-II were miR-21-5p in 60%, miR-320d in 18% and miR-652 in 16% then The two best miRNA partners for PIVKA-II were miR-652 in 64% and hsa-miR-221 in 26% ??

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Title: Comprehensive evaluation of microRNA as a biomarker for the diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05562744

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: FACS, MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor, Senior Scientist

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Turkey

Author's Country/Territory: Germany

Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-28

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-02-11 02:49

Reviewer performed review: 2022-02-14 12:11

Review time: 3 Days and 9 Hours

Scientific quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input 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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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In brief: The authors have performed case contro study identifying miR-21-5p (miR-21), miR-320a, and miR-186-5 miRNAs to have diagnostic agility in HCC. AUC was 0.87. A combination of miRNAs did not perform better than any single miRNA. Improvement of PIVKA-II performance through combination with miRNAs could not be confirmed in the validation panel. Two putative miRs — put-miR-6 and put-miR-99 — were tested in the training and validation panels, but their expression could only be detected in very few samples and at a low level (cycle threshold between 31.24 and 34.97. Which I belive reflects the real thing and they have honestly shared their results. Generally the etxt is well written. I believe it can be published.