

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 79400

**Title:** Angiogenesis and immune checkpoint dual blockade: Opportunities and challenges for hepatocellular carcinoma therapy

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

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 03537114

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** United States

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-08-27

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-08-27 17:59

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-09-04 09:05

**Review time:** 7 Days and 15 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	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 well-written manuscript covering the topic of HCC immunotherapy with special emphasis on the role of VEGF as a modulator of anti-tumor immunity and target for combination immunotherapy of advanced HCC. The article is relatively up to date and reasonably comprehensive. Figures and tables add to the presentation. An article on HCC immunotherapy from the perspective of VEGF adds novelty and may distinguish this article from many other recent articles on the mechanisms of immunotherapy response in HCC.

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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05336320

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** DNB, MBBS, MD

**Professional title:** Assistant Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-08-27

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-09-12 04:14

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-09-19 05:24

**Review time:** 7 Days and 1 Hour

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
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Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	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**

Very well conceptualised and written manuscript. Suggestions: Table 1 can included survival data from the cited study. Incidence and toxicities( numerical or percentage) should also be added. Table2: Current status of the trial to be added uniform referencing style to be used. Informative review, recommended for publication.

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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 06292600

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-08-27

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-09-13 10:16

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-09-22 16:10

**Review time:** 9 Days and 5 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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	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

In this review, the synergistic therapy of anti-angiogenesis and immunotherapy for HCC is described in detail, the mechanism and application of this therapy are comprehensively explained, and the author's own original opinions are put forward. I think it is very valuable. However, there are still some parts that need to be modified.

Question 1: The development of drugs targeting VEGFR was introduced in detail with a large space, but the introduction of drugs blocking VEGF was relatively brief. If the author can introduce the drug development of VEGF blocking in more detail, the structure of the article will become more perfect.

Question 2: Of the 57 articles cited by the author, only 7 are from the last three years. It is hoped that the proportion of citations of published literatures in the past three years can be increased to reflect the latest progress in relevant fields.

Question 3: The author can introduce the mechanism of treating HCC with ICB in more detail, so as to make it easier to understand the synergistic effect of ICB and anti-angiogenesis. It can also make the structure of the article more reasonable.