

March 8, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: WJG8374-review.doc).

Title: Linker phosphorylation of Smad3 promotes fibro-carcinogenesis in chronic viral hepatitis

Author: Miki Murata, Katsunori Yoshida, Takashi Yamaguchi, and Koichi Matsuzaki

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 8374

We are pleased to note the favorable comments of the reviewers in the opening paragraph. We found the reviewers comments most helpful and have revised our manuscript accordingly.

1 Format has been updated.

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer.

- (1) We have studied reviewer's comments written down by an underline carefully, and have made corrections which we hope meet with their approval.
- (2) According to the suggestion, epigenetic factors, including persistent viral infection and inflammation, are inserted in figure 3.

3 Some references and typesetting were corrected.

We hope that the revised manuscript is now acceptable for publication in the World Journal of Gastroenterology.

Sincerely yours,

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