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Reviewer 1

Tumor cells may adopt invasive mesenchymal attributes via the EMT process, engendering enhanced motility and invasiveness, alongside diminished adhesion and cell polarity, culminating in metastasis from the primary tumor locus. However, the role and mechanism of CALD1 within the EMT spectrum in GC remains undefined. Thus, this study embarked on elucidating the association between CALD1 and GC through scrutinizing TCGA and GEO databases. Wenqian Ma et al. evaluated CALD1 mRNA and protein expression in GC tissues, examined the correlation between CALD1 expression and clinical pathological attributes, and probed the role and mechanism of CALD1 in GC tissues and cell lines through an amalgam of experimental and bioinformatics analyses. The experiment of the study is designed very well, aims are very clear. Methods are reasonable. Data in tables are very good, and well discussed. Finally, the manuscript also reviewed previous related literature. I suggest adding a description of the limitations of this research. Thank you for giving opportunity to review your study.

AUTHORS' RESPONSE:

We thank the Reviewer for their time and attention, we have added the limitations of this research in the discussion section, and the modified part has been highlighted the added contents with yellow color.

Reviewer 2

The authors studied the relationship between CALD1 and gastric cancer by synthesized CALD1-siRNA; transfected gastric cancer cell lines; CCK-8 method; scratch assay and Transwell assay; and the qRT-PCR and Western blot methods. Their study propounds that CALD1, through PI3K−Akt signaling pathway activation, may regulate the EMT process in gastric cancer cells, enhancing their invasive capabilities, thereby presenting a

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potentially novel target for gastric cancer treatment. Authors adequately described the background, presented status and significance of the study. I have some minor suggestions. Comments 1: The Figure 1D is not clear enough, and they need to replace a more representative picture and to add a statistical result plot. Comments 2: Please unify the font and font size in all Figures. Comments 3: Some figures lack scale bar, and some figures are poorly annotated. Please revise. Comments 4: The discussion should be more about the interpretation of the results rather than repeating the background introduction.

AUTHORS' RESPONSE:

We express our appreciation for the Reviewer's careful consideration and the decision to accept our manuscript contingent upon minor revisions. Thank you for this very insightful comment. In the following, we have addressed each of the Reviewer's remarks.

Comments 1: We have replaced the Figure 1D picture with a clearer and more representative one, but we are not clear about the specific statistical result picture that the reviewer needs to add. The verification stage demonstrated elevated levels of CALD1 protein expression in gastric cancer tissues in contrast to neighboring non-cancerous tissues, as evidenced by immunohistochemical analysis.

Comments 2: Thanks for pointing out the problem, we have unified the font and font size in all Figures.

Comments 3: Thanks for your suggestions, we have added corresponding scales and annotations.

Comments 4: Thanks for very much for your sincere suggestion. We have revised the discussion part, and the modified part has been highlighted the revised/added contents with yellow color.