

April 03, 2014

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 9045-review.doc).

Title: MicroRNAs as novel predictive biomarkers and therapeutic targets in colorectal cancer

Author: Verena Stiegelbauer, Samantha Perakis, Alexander Deutsch, Hui Ling, Armin Gerger, Martin Pichler

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 9045

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

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

(1) Reviewer# 02537782 states: "MicroRNA but not chemotherapy strategy should be the key point of the manuscript."

Authors reply: According to the constructive reviewers suggestion we have now reduced the content of the therapeutic part in this Review article by one page. Anyway, we also describe in a detailed way the current therapeutic arsenal, as we believe that for a non-oncologist who is not familiar with current treatment algorithms in colorectal cancer, this first part about the treatment options, is very helpful to understand the whole concept and the second part about predictive and therapeutic microRNAs in colorectal cancer.

(2) Reviewer# 02537782 states: The discussion part is too simple which needs reinforcement. The microRNAs that are most likely to be novel predictive biomarkers and therapeutic targets in colorectal cancer should be discussed.

Authors reply: We have now included additional 8 very recently published papers which are dealing with the predictive value of microRNAs and potential pharmacological targets for overcoming drug resistance in colorectal cancer.

(3) Reviewer # 01560494 states: "The review needs English polishing"

Authors reply: One of the co-authors of our review article, a native speaker of US and well-trained scientist (Samantha Perakis), has now again critically reviewed and polished the article language.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

Martin Pichler