

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*

Manuscript NO: 78483

Title: Anti-silencing function 1B knockdown suppresses the malignant phenotype of colorectal cancer by inactivating the phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase/ AKT pathway

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 00505755

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Senior Research Fellow

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-06-29

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-06-29 07:41

Reviewer performed review: 2022-07-05 04:26

Review time: 5 Days and 20 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 Grade E: Do not publish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



**Baishideng
Publishing
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA
Telephone: +1-925-399-1568
E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
<https://www.wjgnet.com>

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

The study demonstrates that ASF1B may contribute in the malignant phenotype of colorectal cancer via PI3K/AKT pathway. Figure 2 may be revised to indicate the differences between sh-ASF1B#1 and sh-ASFB#2 in the legend.

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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06240013

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: Doctor, MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United Kingdom

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-06-29

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-07-23 07:31

Reviewer performed review: 2022-07-26 07:40

Review time: 3 Days

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Peer-reviewer statements	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

The study by Yu et al. investigates the role of ASF1B silencing in the progression of colorectal cancer. The authors investigated the differential expression of ASF1B in colorectal cancer and found that it is upregulated, and high expression was correlated with worse survival. The authors performed mechanistic studies (in vitro and in vivo) and showed that silencing of ASF1B reduces cell proliferation, and suppressed EMT and stemness. The authors found that AS1B may act through the PI3K/AKT pathway. The aims of this study are interesting and well explored; however, I think several points merit attention before publication at the WJG. Please find attached the file with my comments for consideration of improving the quality of the manuscript.

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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05776275

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Research Associate

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United Kingdom

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-06-29

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-07-22 09:13

Reviewer performed review: 2022-07-30 21:34

Review time: 8 Days and 12 Hours

Scientific quality	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="radio"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="radio"/> Grade C: Good <input type="radio"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="radio"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="radio"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="radio"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="radio"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="radio"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="radio"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="radio"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="radio"/> Minor revision <input type="radio"/> Major revision <input type="radio"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Peer-reviewer statements	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 manuscript showed the in vitro display that ASF1B down-regulation distinctly attenuated proliferative, migratory and invasive abilities of HCT116 and SW620 cells, and retarded EMT and stemness of HCT116 and SW620 cells. At the same time, the authors' results in vivo indicated that ASF1B down-regulation suppressed tumor growth of xenograft mice as well as Ki67 expression. Secondly, ASF1B concept in proliferation attenuation in colorectal cancer, has been demonstrated by this manuscript. This study has shown that ASF1B will impact the prognosis of CRC patients.

RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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Reviewer's code: 06240013

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: Doctor, MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United Kingdom

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-06-29

Reviewer chosen by: Jing-Jie Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-09-01 20:53

Reviewer performed review: 2022-09-02 20:05

Review time: 23 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
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous



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7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA
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statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear authors thank you for addressing the reviewer's comments. The quality of the manuscript has been improved, however some points merit attention. Please find in the attached file my comments to further improve the quality of the manuscript.