

Dear Editor-in-Chief,

Thank you for considering our manuscript and for the constructive suggestions and comments, which greatly helped us to improve the manuscript. We have tried our best to revise the manuscript. We hope that your comments have been addressed accurately. If there are any additional questions, please tell us and we can further try to resolve them. The revised portions of the manuscript are marked with red color and the point-to-point responses are given below.

We are looking forward to your final decision.

Sincerely,

Penghui Yang

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Response to editor and reviewers' comments

Reviewer1

1. The manuscript needs to be carefully checked and rewritten, several grammar mistakes need to be corrected. For example: "Weitonglihua Company" in page 6 should be corrected as "Vital River". Fig 1: 'Normol', should be replaced by Normal.

Response: Thank you for your comments. We have replaced the phrases "Weitonglihua Company" with "Vital River". In Figure 1, 'Normol' (page 6; Figure 1A) has been replaced by Normal. In addition, we have carefully checked throughout the revised manuscript.

2. The affiliation should be consistent in manuscript. "302 Hospital" should be placed or noted by "The Fifth Medical Center of Chinese PLA General Hospital".

Response: Thank you for your comments. We have updated the affiliation in the revised manuscript.

3. The figure should be re-arranged. The words in the figure are written in different sizes and several seemed to be in “blod font”.

Response: Thank you for your comments. We have re-arranged the size and the typeface of all Figures, and uploaded the Figures again.

4. The authors described that “Levels of lncRNA W5 expression were relatively stable lower in Huh7 and LM3 among six HCC cell lines”. But figure 1 showed that lncRNA W5 expression in Huh7 was relatively higher than in four cell lines. So the authors should confirm this.

Response: Thank you for your comments. We performed the lncRNA W5 expression in Huh7, MHCC-97L, MHCC-97H, PLC, Hep3B and HCCLM3 and LO2 cell lines at least five times, and the data showed that lncRNA W5 expression in Huh7 and LM3 were stablely downregulated in different cells passages of these HCC cell lines compared with the normal liver cell line LO2.

5. I suggested the authors should use Cox survival analysis to further confirm the prognostic value of W5 for HCC.

Response: Thank you for your comments. We have included Cox analysis in the Table 2 of the revised manuscript.