

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 29526

**Title:** An update of genetic alterations in hepatocellular carcinoma

**Reviewer's code:** 02860809

**Reviewer's country:** Spain

**Science editor:** Jing Yu

**Date sent for review:** 2016-08-19 17:15

**Date reviewed:** 2016-08-30 17:46

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript entitled "An update of genetic alterations in hepatocellular carcinoma" by Zhao-Shan Niu, Xiao-Jun Niu, Wen-Hong Wang is a very exhaustive and deep review on what is known about genetic alteration in the initiation, progression, maintenance of HCC with many comments on the possible implication on diagnosis prognosis and other clinical parameters. It is a complete and a very well written review that it is almost ready for publication. I only have very few comments that only pretend to improve the present manuscript. - are there any reports that establish an association between micronucleus on prognosis or overall survival in HCC? Any evidence published that allows to propose micronucleus as a diagnosis tool in HCC? -Giving the fact that variability/inconsistency of the SNP GWAS studies, would authors recommend effort in this direction? Would recommend to keep studying SNPs in HCC as a marker of initiation and progression in HCC? -are there any reports assessing TP53 mutation status in HCV infected patients? -would authors propose hTERT mRNA levels measurement as a diagnostic tool in HCC? - I miss data on TGF-beta pathway. -Section "problems and perspectives" accumulates some grammar mistakes: "there exist..." ; "be widely realized..." -Abbreviation list is extremely short. There are



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many abbreviations missing

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 29526

**Title:** An update of genetic alterations in hepatocellular carcinoma

**Reviewer's code:** 02936743

**Reviewer's country:** Poland

**Science editor:** Jing Yu

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The article entitled? An update of genetic alterations in hepatocellular carcinoma" provides a comprehensive and insightful overview of genetic changes in hepatocancerogenesis. The authors make a systematic contribution to the research literature in this area of investigation. They documented different genetic alterations connected with hepatocancerogenesis and summarized them on Figure 1 and in three Tables. The presented information are relevant and theory based. The paper is ready for publication however needs minor revision. The authors should revise the style and language used in the article. Using very long sentences should be avoided as they make the content difficult to follow. There are also some sentences used for the second time, e.g. "these findings suggest that beta-catenin mutations might need to cooperate with other oncogenic alterations or pathways..." and three lines below the same sentence: "the findings of the studies indicate ...." There are many citations of the literature data used only once and provides sometimes only very general information, e.g. in subchapter of Wnt/beta-catenin signaling pathway. I feel that some citations are improper used. Please check for example "deregulation of WNT/catenin signaling was found in 40-70% of HCC patients" and citation no 234, or citation numbers: 244, e.g. pos. 248 – concerns not



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HBV, but HCV-induced HCC, 290 - is a mouse model of study, etc. In gene and protein nomenclature please use italic for a symbol when the gene is meant and plan (roman) for when the proteins is meant. I would also like to see the authors improve Figure 1 (more details regarding the title of the manuscript, colours, novelties) to be more professional and perfect. The paper can be accepted for publication providing that the above small error is eliminated