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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Oncology*

Manuscript NO: 74097

Title: Nicotinic receptors modulate antitumor therapy response in triple negative breast cancer cells

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05194763
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: MSc
Professional title: Research Scientist
Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy
Author's Country/Territory: Argentina

Manuscript submission date: 2021-12-27

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-12-27 12:33

Reviewer performed review: 2022-01-09 16:07

Review time: 13 Days and 3 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [Y] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y] Yes [ ] No

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Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript by Español et al aims to investigate the effects of nicotine on paclitaxel treatment using MDA-MB231 as an in vitro model of triple negative breast cancer. Since this breast cancer subtype is the one for which no effective targeted therapies has been yet identified, it represents a matter of concern in the clinical practice. Hence, studies concerning the effect of exposition to factors on therapy are precious. They found that the action of nicotine is responsible of the reversion of the cytotoxic effect of paclitaxel in MDA-MB231 cell lines and reduction of cell apoptosis. The nicotinic acetylcholine receptors (nAChR) are considered the reponsible for the decreasement of the effect of paclitaxel and the authors legitimately suggest to consider them as targets in smoking patients. This is a very good paper, well written and with a good level of English. Moreover, I think that the methods are proper for their aims. The results are adequately described, finally I think that this article should be considered for publication in World Journal of Clinical Oncology. I only have one comment: -Please check this sentence: "After treatment, the medium was removed and 100 µL of MTT solution (500 mg/L medium free of phenol red and FBS).". It sounds incomplete.

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Reviewer's code: 06135401
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: MD, MSc
Professional title: Assistant Professor, Senior Postdoctoral Fellow, Senior Researcher
Reviewer's Country/Territory: Egypt
Author's Country/Territory: Argentina

Manuscript submission date: 2021-12-27

Reviewer chosen by: Ze-Mao Gong

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-01-15 16:56

Reviewer performed review: 2022-01-23 10:48

Review time: 7 Days and 17 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [Y] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [Y] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y] Yes [ ] No

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Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I really appreciated the effort made by the authors in addressing such an important and novel topic in Nicotinic receptors modulate antitumor therapy response in triple negative breast cancer cells . I've found the work is well written and informative. However the following comments is required: In introduction section, activation of nAChRs induce an increase in intracellular calcium levels[14], which may in turn activate different signaling pathways. What is the applied clinical pathophysiology in tumorogenesis which was proved in literature in induction of cancer in different organs by disruption of this pathway? An illustration of cell culture, viability assay and uses of western blot by a figure or a diagram is recommended

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Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05325611
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Argentina

Manuscript submission date: 2021-12-27

Reviewer chosen by: Ze-Mao Gong

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-01-20 11:32

Reviewer performed review: 2022-02-01 15:11

Review time: 12 Days and 3 Hours

Scientific quality	[Y] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [Y] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y] Yes [ ] No

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Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Overall, this is an interesting work to investigate the effect of nicotine on paclitaxel treatment TNBC cell line and the potential regulating signaling pathways. The therapeutic effect of paclitaxel may affected by nicotine, which is a clinical problem need to be elucidated. More importantly, the finding may shed light on the critical role of nicotine during treatment of other tumor types in smoking patients. This manuscript is suggested to be accepted after minor revision.