

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your email dated June 14, 2021. We have revised the manuscript carefully, taking the reviewers' comments into consideration. The changes we made to the original manuscript are highlighted in red for your easy reference. Our point-by-point responses to the reviewers' comments are summarized as follows and the revision is highlighted in manuscript by red color.

Responses to the comments of Reviewer #1

Congratulations to the authors and editor for considering the topic "PDT as alternative treatment in HCC" as a frontier article. The article would add impetus to further research in the said topic.

1. Photodynamic therapy: A next alternative treatment strategy for hepatocellular carcinoma? The title appears to be apt. 2. The article has rightly pointed out various limitations in available literature which need to be addressed by ongoing/future studies 3. Though the article may not change the clinical practice at present, it raises a pertinent question about the role of PDT in HCC. The article may positively impact future studies about role of PDT in hepatobiliary tumors.

Response: We feel great thanks for your professional review work on our article.

Responses to the comments of Reviewer #2

Authors reviewed basic and clinical understanding about PDT in HCC treatment. Although its clinical application still requires further advancement, this article can supply information and limitation about PDT for HCC treatment. Several miss spelling and grammatical errors were found.

Response: Thanks for the reviewer's kind suggestion. The manuscript has been carefully checked and revised.

Responses to the comments of Science editor

1. Several miss spelling and grammatical errors were found. English need a polish.

Response: Thanks for science editor's kind suggestion. The manuscript has been carefully checked and revised. The changes we made to the original manuscript are highlighted in red for your easy reference.

2. *Supplementary comments: The study was supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China and Wuhan Municipal Health Commission. The topic has not previously been published in the WJG. The authors did not provide the approved grant application form(s).*

Response: Thanks for science editor's kind suggestion. We will upload the approved grant application forms.

Responses to the comments of Company editor-in-chief

Author(s) must add a table/figure to the manuscript.

Response: Thanks for company editor-in-chief's kind suggestion. We add a figure to reveal the limitations of PDT in clinical practice for HCC and potential strategies to overcome the obstacles in further research.

