

Animal care and use statement

The animal protocol was designed to minimize pain or discomfort to the animals. Nude mice were obtained from Laboratory Animals of Tianjin Medical University. All procedures involving mice were carried out in accordance with the guidelines of the Welfare of Animals in Experimental Neoplasia (as described in 1998 in Br J Cancer 77:1-10) and were approved by Animal Care and Use Committee of the Tianjin third central hospital; Groups of four mice were subcutaneously injected in the flank with 5×10^7 SGC7901 cells. Five mice were assigned to each group, Control group: no treatment was given; Experiment 1 group: injection of AMD3100; Experiment 2 group: injection of CCX711; Experiment 3 group: injection of CCX711+AMD3100. The grafted animals were then monitored weekly with calipers for tumor growth assessment. The tumor volume was calculated using the formula $(\text{length} \times \text{width}^2)/2$. A week after injection of SGC-7901 tumor cells, AMD3100 (dose: 5 mg/kg; solvent: 30% Tween 80 (5%), 65% D5W) and/or CCX711 (dose: 5 mg/kg; solvent: 30% PEG400, 0.5% Tween80, 5% propylene glycol, 64.5% D5W) were directly injected into the tumor volume. After twenty days, the mice were sacrificed, and the tumor tissue was removed and weighed; tumor volume and weight were calculated.