

ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6600

Title: Targeting tight junctions during epithelial to mesenchymal transition in human pancreatic cancer .

Reviewer code: 00061686

Science editor: Ma, Ya-Juan

Date sent for review: 2013-10-25 19:02

Date reviewed: 2013-11-07 23:58

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | RECOMMENDATION | 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Existed | <input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected | <input type="checkbox"/> Existed | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor) | | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. It could be interesting for the Readers that the Review starts by a Paragraph describing the structural and functional arrangements of pancreatic cell-to-cell contact in the normal physiological situation. 2. Is the EMT specifically triggered by TJs alterations ? 3. Is the activation of PKC specific for pancreatic EMT ? Are other signaling pathways involved or not in pancreatic EMT? 4. Authors focused on TJs-associated proteins. Cell-to-cell contacts are also triggered by homotypic and heterotypic associations of members of the carcinoembryonic antigen cell adhesion molecules (CEACAMs) family. What is the situation of CEACAMs in pancreas ? Is there a role of CEACAM-CEACAM dissociation in pancreatic EMT ? 5. A Paragraph specifically dedicated to C-CEP seems necessary for clarity. 6. The Reviewer is not convinced that some References cited are appropriately up to date. Please actualize. 7. It is not clear how tight junction proteins, including claudins, and PKC signaling might have potentially applicability in pancreatic cancer for two proposals, i.e., diagnosis and therapy? 8. Authors stated in Conclusion: "Furthermore, it is possible that C-CPE can enhance the effectiveness of clinically relevant chemotherapies and be used as a carrier for other bacterial toxins or drugs to the cancer cells." This a too high speculative sentence not supported by the above described reports.

ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6600

Title: Targeting tight junctions during epithelial to mesenchymal transition in human pancreatic cancer .

Reviewer code: 02529364

Science editor: Ma, Ya-Juan

Date sent for review: 2013-10-25 19:02

Date reviewed: 2013-12-29 09:35

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | RECOMMENDATION | 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Existed | <input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected | <input type="checkbox"/> Existed | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor) | | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors reviewed the tight junction proteins and the PKC signaling pathway in relation to their potential diagnostic and therapeutic use in pancreatic cancer. The structure of this review is clear. However, some modifications are necessary. 1. Minor language polishing is required. The following two sentences are examples. "In pancreatic cancer, some tight junction proteins, including claudins, are abnormally regulated and therefore are promising molecular targets for diagnosis is prognosis and therapy" "The current review will focus on the roles of tight junction proteins, including claudins, and PKC signaling with regard to the potential applicability for diagnosis is prognosis and the therapy during EMT in pancreatic cancer". 2. C-CEP: It would be good to provide some details about C-CEP. For example, how many amino acids? 3. It would be good to have a picture to show the locations of the tight junctions in pancreas. It is also necessary to point out that the tight junctions and the PKC pathway are not only related to pancreatic cancer. 4. Conclusion. The conclusion of this review is too high, not fully supported by the evidence stated in the manuscript.