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ESPS Peer-review Report
Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology
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Title: Targeted migration of mesenchymal stem cells modified with CXCWen, Ling-Ling to acute failing liver improves liver regeneration
Reviewer code: 00504441
Science editor: Wen, Ling-Ling
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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A (Excellent)	[ ] Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	[ ] Accept
[ ] Grade B (Very good)	[Y] Grade B: minor language polishing	[ ] Existed	[ ] High priority for publication
[Y] Grade C (Good)	[ ] Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	[ ] No records	[ ]Rejection
[ ] Grade D (Fair)	[ ] Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	[Y] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E (Poor)		[ ] Existed	[ ] Major revision
		[ ] No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The low number of MSC colonizing a particular diseased organ upon intravenous infusion is a concern, and a stumbling block in moving MSC forward for clinical use. This article by Ma et al showed that CXCR4-modified MSCs home better to damaged liver and improves recovery. The authors demonstrate an increased in HGF and VEGF level in the serum of treated mice. While the authors showed decreased ALT and AST level, it is not known whether complete functional recovery was achieved. Did the authors check the level of albumin in the treated mice vs the null mice? CXCR4-overexpressing cells has been shown to induced apoptosis in T cells, breast cancer cells, colorectal carcinoma cells, neurons, to name a few; it was also suggested to improve cell survival through upregulation of ERK. However, no difference was observed cell viability between TAA+CXCR4-MSC and TAA-null-MSC, why is that? One of the key question is how long does MSC reside in the target tissue. Is MSC visible after 5 days? Also, when was the H&E staining done? Are you able to detect MSCs? If MSC are no longer detectable after 5 days, yet the authors are able to see recovery beyond that, does it mean the MSC has differentiated into hepatocytes? Or the improve recovery is due to paracrine signaling? Please discuss .