

ESPS Peer-review Report

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Title: Correlation between Hepatic Blood Flow and liver Function In Alcoholic Liver Cirrhosis

Reviewer code:

Science editor: Wen, Ling-Ling

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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	BPG Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this manuscript, Chen et al. report that TNF receptor-associated protein 1 (TRAP1) expression was up-regulated in the colon tissues from UC progressors (patients with cancer or dysplasia), but not in the colon tissues from UC non-progressors (dysplasia/cancer free patients). Interestingly, up-regulation of TRAP1 was present in both the dysplastic and non-dysplastic tissue of UC progressors. They also showed that the increase of TRAP1 expression positively correlated with the degree of inflammation in the colorectal cancer tissues. In addition, they showed oxidative damage was significantly increased in the colon mucosa of high grade dysplasia and oxidative damage increased TRAP1 and several other negative modulators of apoptosis in colon cancer cells. Collectively, the authors propose that oxidative stress in long standing UC could lead to the increase of TRAP1, which in turn promote cancer progression by preventing the oxidative damaged epithelial cells from undergoing apoptosis. This is potentially interesting observation. However, there are several issues that need to be clarified or modified.

1) The authors suggest in the discussion that chronic inflammation causes chronic oxidative damage, then promotes cancer progression. In Figure 6, authors show the levels of oxidative damage of non-neoplastic colonic mucosa from normal control, non-progressors, and progressors and HGD colonic mucosa from progressors. However, it is unclear that the correlation between level of oxidative stress and degree of neoplastic change (LGD<HGD<cancer?). To address this issue, it would be better to show oxidative damage of LGD mucosa and cancer mucosa from progressors in Figure 6.

2) The authors suggest that increased TRAP1 expression inhibits a normal damage-induced apoptotic response. In addition, authors have previously shown that bcl-2, an anti-apoptotic protein, is

overexpressed in the dysplastic and non-dysplastic mucosa of UC progressors. Therefore, it would be better to show whether there is a correlation between TRAP1 expression and bcl-2 expression in the colonic mucosa of UC progressors.

3) In this study, the authors evaluate TRAP1 expression by using IHC in Figure 1. To further confirm this result, it would be better to show mRNA expression of TRAP1 in the colonic mucosa of UC patients by using QPCR.

4) The authors describe in the figure legend of Figure 1, “ $P < 0.005$ using Mann Whitney test relative to normal controls.” However, I cannot find any asterisks in Figure 1.

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