

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 19051

**Title:** Epigenetic Regulation of Insulin-like Growth Factor Axis in Hepatocellular Carcinoma

**Reviewer's code:** 02462179

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Jing Yu

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	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"/> The same title	<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"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Insulin-like growth factor (IGF) signaling pathway is an advanced research hotspot in hepatocellular carcinoma which has been focused on in order to find therapeutic means for HCC. In this article, the author summarized the epigenetic regulation of the IGF axis members by microRNAs and DNA methylation in HCC. Finally, the author concluded that microRNAs regulation could provide an approach in an attempt to find an efficient radical cure for HCC. Overall, the topic is interesting and the minireview is well-prepared. However, there remain several questions in the minireview. They are given below. 1.The last sentence in "Epigenetic regulation of our genome" (Page 3) showed that IGF-II was highly upregulated in patients with HCC due to hypomethylation of P4 promoter. In addition, hypomethylated P3 promoter also caused the upregulation of IGF-II in patients with HCC that should be added there. 2.A recent study revealed that microRNA-28-5p could regulate IGF-I mRNA transcription and microRNA-28-5p-IGF-I-PI3K/AKT pathway might participate in the development of HCC. It's a new founding about microRNAs and IGF-I in HCC. 3.Insulin-like growth factor-binding protein-7 (IGFBP7), a secreted protein belonging to the IGFBP family, functions as a



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potential tumor suppressor for HCC. Moreover, it could bind IGFs and insulin too. DNA methylation of IGFBP7 promoter was observed in patients with HCC. The author should discuss it in the minireview. 4. MicroRNAs and its regulation were mainly discussed in the manuscript. However, DNA methylation could also provide a therapeutic approach for HCC which should be discussed. 5. It is better to provide several figures about the IGF signaling pathway and IGF targeting strategies in HCC treatment in the manuscript. 6. Several typographical errors should be corrected.