



**ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

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

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 28441

**Title:** MiR-1181 inhibits invasion and proliferation via STAT3 in pancreatic cancer

**Reviewer’s code:** 00001832

**Reviewer’s country:** Germany

**Science editor:** Ze-Mao Gong

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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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		BPG Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The manuscript by Wang and co-workers analyzes the effects of miR-1181 on invasion and proliferation of pancreatic cancer cells with special emphasis on STAT-3. The manuscript is well written and the experimental procedure are sound and valid. There are, however, a number of concerns that should be addressed: 1. The authors should clearly state the differences between the present study and their previous work “MiR-1181 inhibits stem cell-like phenotypes and suppresses SOX2 and STAT3 in human pancreatic cancer” published in Cancer Letters 2015. 2. Could the authors provide evidence for the specificity and efficacy of the used miR-1181 adenoviruses? Any references that could be cited? Same for si-STAT3. 3. To use HPDE as a ‘normal’ control for pancreatic cancer cells is questionable, since pancreatic cancers most likely develop from acinar cells, through ADM and PanIN. This should at least be discussed. Are there any data available regarding miR-1181 expression in acinar cells? 4. Methods: “human primary pancreatic cancer cells or subcutaneous xenograft”. Where were these cells/xenografts utilized? 5. The authors demonstrate that miR-1181 is up-regulated around 2-fold using the adenoviral vector. That seems to be a rather weak effect. Could the authors comment on this? 6. Could the authors quantify figures 2 C and D, as well as 3C? 7.



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Figure 4A: was there any difference in STAT3 phosphorylation between groups? 8. Could the authors state the exact negative controls used for figure 4C and D?