



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 71456

**Title:** Atrophic gastritis and gastric cancer tissue miRNome analysis reveal hsa-miR-129-1 and hsa-miR-196a as potential early diagnostic biomarkers

**Provenance and peer review:** Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 03731081

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Russia

**Author's Country/Territory:** Lithuania

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-09-13

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-09-13 17:36

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-09-15 18:15

**Review time:** 2 Days

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

In this article, the authors showed changes in expression level of hsa-miR-196a-5p and hsa-miR-129-1-3p in the gastric carcinogenesis pathway and confirmed these miRNAs as a possible noninvasive biomarker for atrophic gastritis and gastric cancer. These results support the Correa gastric carcinogenesis cascade. The new findings have scientific and practical implications for the prevention of gastric cancer. The manuscript is recommended for publication in the World Journal of Gastroenterology.



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**Provenance and peer review:** Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer’s code:** 05469117

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Adjunct Professor, Chief Physician, Deputy Director

**Reviewer’s Country/Territory:** China

**Author’s Country/Territory:** Lithuania

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-09-13

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-10-01 05:18

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-10-03 09:35

**Review time:** 2 Days and 4 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



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<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Anonymous [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] No
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### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Comments and Suggestions: The paper by Varkalaite G et al describes that atrophic gastritis and gastric cancer tissue miRNome analysis reveal 2 microRNA as potential biomarkers. It is suggested that hsa-miR-196a-5p expression is significant for discrimination between controls (CON) and AG or GC, while hsa-miR-129-1-3p is potential candidate for non-invasive GC diagnostic. The paper is well-written and with clear objectives, but it might be improved with the following suggestions: 1. Page 26, "Table 1 Demographic characteristics of profiling and validation cohorts Validation cohort", there were too many subjects in the GC group with unknown H. pylori infection status, and in this group, with a limited sample size and so many sample losses, is the statistical conclusion persuasive? 2. Tissue analysis in the profiling (n = 60) cohort revealed that hsa-miR-196a-5p expression in tissue could be significant for discrimination between CON and AG or GC. But, no significant expression changes about hsa-miR196a-5p were observed in validation (n = 65) cohort in plasma samples by using RT-qPCR. It is unreasonable to make inferences that thsa-miR-196a-5p expression in tissue could be significant for discrimination between CON and AG or GC. This inference should be verified in at least one cohort.



## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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**Reviewer's code:** 05469117

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Adjunct Professor, Chief Physician, Deputy Director

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** Lithuania

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-09-13

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jing-Jie Wang (Online Science Editor)

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-12-18 16:35

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-12-20 06:02

**Review time:** 1 Day and 13 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Peer-reviewer</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous



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statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Agree with the author's reply and agree to publish.