



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 84780

**Title:** Bioenergetic alteration in gastrointestinal cancers: The good, the bad and the ugly

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 04056477

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Deputy Director

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2023-03-28

**Reviewer chosen by:** Geng-Long Liu

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2023-04-18 02:59

**Reviewer performed review:** 2023-04-26 03:38

**Review time:** 8 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 Grade E: Do not publish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>Novelty of this manuscript</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
<b>Creativity or innovation of this manuscript</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation



<b>Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<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

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This is a complete and timely review relating to the energy metabolism and energy-based therapy in gastrointestinal cancers. I only have some minor suggestions: 1) lonidamine should be abbreviated as LND rather than LDN 2) “The roles of remaining subunits in GI cancer is currently unknown...”, is should be revised to are 3) In the section of glycolytic inhibitors, the following papers can be discussed (2-Deoxy-D-glucose increases the sensitivity of glioblastoma cells to BCNU through the regulation of glycolysis, ROS and ERS pathways: In vitro and in vivo validation. *Biochem. Pharmacol.* 2022, 199, 115029.; Sun, X. D.; Sun, G. H.; Huang, Y. X.; Hao, Y. X.; Tang, X. Y.; Zhang, N.; Zhao, L. J.; Zhong, R. G.; Peng, Y. Z., 3-Bromopyruvate regulates the status of glycolysis and BCNU sensitivity in human hepatocellular carcinoma cells. *Biochem. Pharmacol.* 2020, 177, 113988.; Glycolytic inhibition by 3-bromopyruvate increases the cytotoxic effects of chloroethylnitrosoureas to human glioma cells and the DNA interstrand cross-links formation. *Toxicology* 2020, 435, 152413.)



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**Reviewer's code:** 05688164

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** BSc, MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Research Fellow

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2023-03-28

**Reviewer chosen by:** Geng-Long Liu

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2023-05-04 06:06

**Reviewer performed review:** 2023-05-08 08:10

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

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Novelty of this manuscript</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
<b>Creativity or innovation of this manuscript</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation



<b>Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
<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
<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

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

8 May 2023    Manuscript ID: 84780    Type: Review    Title: ‘Bioenergetic alteration in gastrointestinal cancers: the good, the bad and the ugly’ by Chu YD et al., submitted to World Journal of Gastroenterology    Dear Authors,    Understanding the bioenergetic alterations in cancer cells may lead development of new therapies to improve cancer diagnosis and treatment. Chu and colleagues in the present review article entitled ‘Bioenergetic alteration in gastrointestinal cancers: the good, the bad and the ugly’, reviews the latest findings on bioenergetic alterations in various gastrointestinal cancers and discusses potential therapeutic strategies that target these alterations.    The main strength of this paper is that it addresses an interesting and timely question, providing a comprehensive review of the latest research on bioenergetic alterations in gastrointestinal cancers and its discussion of potential therapeutic strategies. In general, I think the idea of this review is really interesting and the authors’ fascinating observations on this timely topic may be of interest to the readers of World Journal of Gastroenterology. However, some comments, as well as some crucial evidence that should be included to support the author’s argumentation, needed to be addressed to



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improve the quality of the manuscript, its adequacy, and its readability prior to the publication in the present form. Please consider the following comments: 1. First, I would like the authors to clarify the type of this review article, such as narrative. Please refer to the checklist and make sure there are crucial elements for the review type (<http://prisma-statement.org/PRISMAstatement/checklist.aspx>). Then I would like the authors to address the following questions and clarify them in the manuscript: a) What are some of the bioenergetic alterations that occur in gastrointestinal cancers? b) How do these alterations affect the progression and treatment of these cancers? c) Are there any potential therapeutic targets for these bioenergetic changes? 2. Title: The manuscript's title is its most crucial section. Please use a short, self-explanatory title that captures the essence of this review. Reference: <https://plos.org/resource/how-to-write-a-great-title/>; <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35792782/>; <https://www.developmenttools.com/title-generator/>. 3. A graphical abstract that will visually summarize the main message of the manuscript is highly recommended. 4. Abstract: I recommend the authors reorganize this section with 200–220 words, proportionally presenting the following subsections without headings: the background, a short summary, and the conclusion. The background should include the general background (one to two sentences), the specific background (two to three sentences), and the current issue addressed by this review (one sentence), leading to the objectives. In this subsection, I would like the authors to lay out basic information, a problem statement, and their motivation to break off. The short summary ends with a sentence that puts this subsection in a general context. The conclusion should include one sentence describing the main result using words like “Here we highlight”. The conclusion should describe the potential and the advance this study has provided in the field, and finally, a broader perspective (two to three sentences) readily comprehensible to a scientist in any discipline. 5. Keywords: Please list six keywords chosen from



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Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) (<https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/>) according to the journal's guidelines (<https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/GerInfo/217>) and use as many as possible in the title and in the first two sentences of the abstract. 6. Introduction: The authors need to revise a section of their research paper. This section should be approximately 1000 words in length and include information on key study constructs that would be essential for readers in any discipline to understand. The authors should present the introduction in a specific order, starting with the overall context, then moving on to the specific context and addressing the current problem before presenting the objectives. The key structures should be logically and coherently arranged. To help a reader understand the review paper better, the authors should provide a brief outline of the following sections. 7. In this regard, a general overview of hallmarks of mitochondrial bioenergetics and its resilience involving beyond the tricyclic cycle and electron transport chain, including presentation of signs and symptoms (<https://doi.org/10.3390/cells11162607>). Other works that may enhance the value of this manuscript include: doi: 10.3390/ijms222413384; <https://doi.org/10.3390/biomedicines9070833>; <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijms22094753>; <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijms21175986>; <https://doi.org/10.3390/biomedicines9080881>. 8. Discussion: I would like the authors to present an independent section by opening with an introductory paragraph followed by a summary of the previous sections. Then, I expect the authors to develop arguments clarifying the potential of this study as an extension of the previous work, the implication of the findings of this study, how this study could facilitate future research, the ultimate goal, the challenge, the knowledge and technology necessary to achieve this goal, the statement about this field in general, and finally the importance of this line of research. It is particularly important to present the limitations, merits, and potential translation of this review to clinical practice. 9. Conclusion: In my opinion, presenting the conclusion would be better served by a single



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paragraph outlining some careful and in-depth conclusions made by the authors in their capacity as subject matter experts. It is important for the authors to attempt to explain both the theoretical and practical implications of their research. To fully grasp the significance of this study, I think it would be necessary to discuss theoretical and methodological strands that still require improvement as well as suggestions for a future course. Overall, the manuscript contains four figures, four tables, and 296 references. I believe that the manuscript may provide valuable insights into the bioenergetic changes that occur in gastrointestinal cancers, which can help clinicians more accurately diagnose and predict the course of the disease and develop new therapies to improve patient outcomes. I hope that, after these careful revisions, the manuscript can meet the Journal's high standards for publication. I am available for a new round of revision of this article. I declare no conflict of interest regarding this manuscript. Best regards,  
Reviewer