

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

Manuscript NO: 68891

Title: Effects of dietary zinc deficiency on esophageal squamous cell proliferation and the mechanisms involved

Reviewer's code: 06120674

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-06-30

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-07-04 23:12

Reviewer performed review: 2021-07-06 01:38

Review time: 1 Day and 2 Hours

Scientific quality	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<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
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	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

The topic of this manuscript falls within the scope of World Journal Gastroenterology. The scope of this study was to investigate the effects of dietary zinc deficiency on the growth and development and proliferation of esophageal squamous cells in mice. They also investigated the pathway of zinc deficiency-induced esophageal squamous cell proliferation by detecting the expression of five predictive bio-markers. Their results showed that the zinc deficiency diet decreased the growth rate and promoted the proliferation of esophageal epithelial squamous cells in mice. The manuscript is very interesting and useful. The study confirmed that the mechanism was related to the induced over expression of COX-2, P38, PCNA, and NF-kB (p105 and p65), and zinc deficiency reduced the expression of PCNA, NF-kB p105, and COX-2, thereby reversing this process. The manuscript is well written and very understandable for the reader even if he is not a specialist. Materials and reagents and Discussion are well organized. It is necessary to provide clearer figures again. Figures are not particularly clear. The image resolution must be 300dpi and the authors must use the micrometer μm to avoid the error when publishing the image so that the details are not lost when minimized or enlarged. I recommend accepting this manuscript for publication after a minor editing.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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Title: Effects of dietary zinc deficiency on esophageal squamous cell proliferation and the mechanisms involved

Reviewer's code: 06120670

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-06-30

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-07-04 23:13

Reviewer performed review: 2021-07-07 10:35

Review time: 2 Days and 11 Hours

Scientific quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input 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
Language quality	<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
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear author, Thank you for sharing your article entitled "Effects of dietary zinc deficiency on esophageal squamous cell proliferation and the mechanisms involved: A study based on a mouse model". The study is a well-written, good structured recommendation for the prevention the occurrence of esophageal cancer. The recommendations are good for clinical use. Also, your article is good in grammar and scientific writing rules. The topic is actual and well described. Thank you for a useful and important synopsis of this important topic. Sincerely

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Title: Effects of dietary zinc deficiency on esophageal squamous cell proliferation and the mechanisms involved

Reviewer's code: 06120635

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Taiwan

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-06-30

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript written by Yao Chen et al. examined the expression of 5 predictive biomarkers COX-2, NF-kB p65, NF-kB p105, PCNA, and P38 via immunohistochemistry. They investigate the effects of dietary ZD on the growth and development and proliferation of esophageal squamous cells in mice. This study is of value to prevent the occurrence of esophageal cancer by increasing intake of foods rich in zinc. Very interesting study. And the manuscript is well written. The experiment of the study is designed very well, aims are very clear. Methods are reasonable. Data in figures and tables are very good, and well discussed. Thank you for giving opportunity to review your study.