PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*

Manuscript NO: 76336

Title: Emerging role of caldesmon in cancer: A potential biomarker for colorectal cancer and other cancers

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05116713

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: N/A, MD

Professional title: N/A, Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United States

Author's Country/Territory: United Arab Emirates

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-16

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-16 08:26

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-16 08:31

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [Y] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [Y] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y] Yes [ ] No

Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The review is satisfactory and the information is useful.   References are adequate.
There are few minor grammar and formatting errors in the text.   Please correct and then
it is ready to publish.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*

Manuscript NO: 76336

Title: Emerging role of caldesmon in cancer: A potential biomarker for colorectal cancer and other cancers

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 00505755

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Senior Research Fellow

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: United Arab Emirates

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-16

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-16 06:57

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-17 02:22

Review time: 19 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [Y] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[Y] Grade A: Priority publishing [ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [Y] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[ ] Yes [Y] No

| **Peer-reviewer statements** | Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous   [   ] Onymous |
| | Conflicts-of-Interest: [   ] Yes   [Y] No |

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This review describes the role of caldesmon in cancer.

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Manuscript NO: 76336

Title: Emerging role of caldesmon in cancer: A potential biomarker for colorectal cancer and other cancers

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03538879

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Chief Doctor, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: United Arab Emirates

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-16

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-20 02:25

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-20 09:39

Review time: 7 Hours

Scientific quality	[Y] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [Y] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y] Yes [ ] No

Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Colorectal cancer is a widely prevalent malignant tumor in the world, and its morbidity and mortality have been on the rise, especially in developed countries and regions. Although early screening is a good strategy for colorectal cancer, it still fails to lower the mortality mainly due to metastasis. Understanding the molecular mechanisms of invasion and metastasis and finding new biomarkers and therapeutic targets are critical for treating colorectal cancer, however, the progress in this area is limited. The actin cytoskeleton and actin-binding proteins play important roles in cancer metastasis. Caldesmon is an actin-binding protein encoded by the CALD1 gene. This article reviews the role of caldesmon, especially l-CaD, in colorectal cancer development, metastasis and resistance to chemoradiotherapy, and provides sufficient data for Caldesmon as a potential candidate for colorectal cancer targeted therapy. However, the discussion of other tumors such as gastric cancer and bladder cancer is not necessary for the review.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*

Manuscript NO: 76336

Title: Emerging role of caldesmon in cancer: A potential biomarker for colorectal cancer and other cancers

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 04135204

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: United Arab Emirates

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-16

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-21 09:57

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-22 09:52

Review time: 23 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [Y] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing [Y] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [Y] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript entitled "The emerging role of caldesmon in cancer: A potential biomarker for colorectal cancer metastasis and response to therapy" focused on the function of caldesmon in cancers. It is interesting to investigate different biomarkers for malignant tumor with high metastasis rate, to facilitate the development of anti-cancer drug and therapeutic strategies. The specific comments are followed. 1. The structure is not designed well. Did the author review all types of cancer or CRC only? The title and abstract were confused to mislead to CRC. However, the whole manuscript involved different types of cancers. If so, the title and abstract should be revised accordingly. 2. The keywords should be modified also. 3. In Introduction section, the number of cases should be list as "5,253,335 cases" instead of "5 253 335 cases". Other number also should be changed accordingly. 4. The introduction is too long to understand. Please divide it into different paragraph to make it logistic. 5. The Fig 1.A is too complex. No useful information could provide to reader. Please simplify this figure. 6. Table 1.A and 1.B should be simplified also. It is suggested to draw figures to merge similar signaling pathway to get conclusion. 7. The structure should be changed. After discussion of "the emerging role of caldesmon in carcinogenesis", the authors should demonstrate the specific aspects of cancer in next level. 8. On the other hand, as a minireview or regular review, the whole manuscript is too long. It is suggested that the authors focused on CRC and the role and molecular mechanism of caldesmon in CRC. 9. The conclusion is not specific. 10. Importantly, single sentence should not be a paragraph. The whole manuscript should be polished by a native English-speaker with biological background. Although the English certification has been supplied, the quality of the manuscript was

not guaranteed.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[Y] Grade A: Priority publishing [ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [Y] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y] Yes [ ] No

| Peer-reviewer statements | Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous |
| | Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No |

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Frankly speaking, this review is very well written and of the highest-quality in its small area, and the authors obviously have deep understanding of the molecule "caldesmon". It seems that they have gone through all the correlative literatures in this area, and in this review, these knowledge are well organized and introduced to the readers. However, my suggestion to this review is "rejection" or "major revision". WJG is a famous journal in the field of gastrointestinal surgery and oncology. Although the name of this review is "A potential biomarker for colorectal cancer", the authors give too much information on bladder cancer, lung cancer and breast cancer, which has no relation with us colon surgeon or oncologists. Even worse, if caldesmon is a potential biomarker in colon cancer, how is it compared with the traditional markers including CEA, CA 19-9, k-ras, braf in colon cancer? In core tip, the last sentence is "These data qualify caldesmon as an attractive candidate for targeted therapy in addition to its role in the diagnosis and prognosis of cancer"。 I feel the authors forgot they are writing a review discussing "colon cancer", not "cancer" in general.

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Manuscript NO: 76336

Title: Emerging role of caldesmon in cancer: A potential biomarker for colorectal cancer and other cancers

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05775860

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Assistant Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: United Arab Emirates

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-16

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-18 00:35

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-24 11:24

Review time: 6 Days and 10 Hours

Scientific quality	[Y] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[Y] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[ ] Yes [Y] No

Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript entitled "The emerging role of caldesmon in cancer: A potential biomarker for colorectal cancer metastasis and response to therapy" reports a review on the important role of the actin binding protein caldesmon in cancer development, metastasis and resistance to chemotherapy. The authors also summarized well-recognized signaling proteins and pathways involved in cancer development. The manuscript is well prepared and will contribute to the field. I recommend publication of the paper.