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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

ESPS manuscript NO: 20707

Title: The Expression of P-STAT3 and VEGF in MNNG-Induced Precancerous Lesions and Gastric Tumor in Rats

Reviewer's code: 00503623

Reviewer's country: United States

Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong

Date sent for review: 2015-06-19 10:53

Date reviewed: 2015-09-28 23:26

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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript, ESPS #20707, reports the results of studies on the expression of p-STAT3 and VEGF in gastric mucosa of rats subjected to MNNG administration for up to 40 days. Using a large number of animals (120), the authors concluded that the mucosal expression of STAT3 as well as VEGF shows significant increase in animals with dysplasia and gastric tumor, and that the VEGF expression exhibits a positive correlation with p-STAT3. While the authors claim that the obtained data are of major significance, the fact is that the work is mainly confirmatory, and provides no new evidence as to the role of STAT3 in the up-regulation in VEGF expression and the etiology of MNNG-induced gastric precancerous lesion formation and gastric cancer. Hence, the exaggerated claims made in the "Discussion" should be tempered. Moreover, the entire manuscript needs thorough language editing, including spelling, composition, and wedding out "newly created words, i.e., damagement ? The method section does not provide the basis and description of how and who conducted the reported morphological assessment. Same applies to "Extraction of gastric tissue samples for Western Blot analysis. Which stomach segments were used and how the tissue was



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acquired ? Also, see the last sentence on page 4, 2000og ???