

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Hepatology*

**Manuscript NO:** 79756

**Title:** Role of microRNA-regulated cancer stem cells in recurrent hepatocellular carcinoma

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

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 06343927

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

**Author's Country/Territory:** New Zealand

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-09-05

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-09-29 03:46

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-10-08 03:21

**Review time:** 8 Days and 23 Hours

Scientific quality	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
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 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**

This is a high-quality article. The author introduced the research of MicroRNA in HCC. Summarized the research progress of MicroRNA in HCC. The article is clear and the language is appropriate.

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**Reviewer's code:** 02529007

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Academic Editor, Professor, Senior Scientist

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

**Author's Country/Territory:** New Zealand

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-09-05

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-10-01 11:59

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-10-10 12:09

**Review time:** 9 Days

Scientific quality	<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
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
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	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Manuscript NO: 79756 entitled, "Role of MicroRNA-Regulated Cancer Stem Cells in Recurrent Hepatocellular Carcinoma" attempts to review and summarize studies on regulatory effects of miRNAs on CSCs in HCC development with a particular concern on their potential role on HCC recurrence. To this end, the manuscript is first started by "introducing the surface markers of LCSCS and their potential role in HCC development and then continues with regulatory roles of miRNAs in three sections upregulated/downregulated/therapeutic miRNAs and their roles in HCC. Finally, it is concluded that miRNAs are involved in various biological processes, including tumorigenesis and might be one of the important tools to target CSCs for HCC therapy.

Comments: - The role of miRNA in hepatic cancer stem cell for HCC development is studied extensively specially in the last decade. The first review articles in this domain were also published almost ten years ago (Wei Qi et al, The function of miRNA in hepatic cancer stem cell, Biomed Res Int. 2013;2013:358902). Recently this subject and specially deregulations of miRNA in CSCs and their role in HCC development is extensively reviewed (Dysregulated MicroRNA Fingerprints and Methylation Patterns in Hepatocellular Carcinoma, Cancer Stem Cells, and Mesenchymal Stem Cells) and more recently is updated in a review article published in May 2022 ((Hesham A El-Mahdy et al, miRNAs inspirations in hepatocellular carcinoma: Detrimental and favorable aspects of key performers, Pathol Res Pract 2022 May;233:153886). Therefore if the presently submitted manuscript is attempting to review "recent years' research findings and reports", then it should at least address these recently published review articles (that exactly discuss and review the same subject) and then explain any novel



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approach/novel idea/novel information (if any) that are considered and provided compared to these recently published review articles (as the aim of the review writing at the end of introduction section). But the submitted manuscript does not include even one 2022 citation! - The manuscript could be extensively shortened by citing recently published review articles and focusing only on very recently published reports that are not reviewed before. - Fig. 1 does not provide any new or acknowledge able information and might be omitted. - The manuscript still needs English polishing for grammar and used phrases.