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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Oncology

Manuscript NO: 42964

Title: Evaluation of a locked nucleic acid form of antisense oligo targeting HIF-1 α in advanced hepatocellular carcinoma

Reviewer's code: 00468686

Reviewer's country: Turkey

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2018-11-10

Date reviewed: 2018-11-11

Review time: 1 Day

| SCIENTIFIC QUALITY | LANGUAGE QUALITY | CONCLUSION | PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS |
|--|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept | Peer-Review: |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language | (High priority) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good | polishing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept | <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of | (General priority) | Peer-reviewer's expertise on the |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not | language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision | topic of the manuscript: |
| publish | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision | <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> No expertise |
| | | | Conflicts-of-Interest: |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes |
| | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

None

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT



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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Oncology

Manuscript NO: 42964

Title: Evaluation of a locked nucleic acid form of antisense oligo targeting HIF-1 α in advanced hepatocellular carcinoma

Reviewer's code: 03439017

Reviewer's country: Italy

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2018-11-10

Date reviewed: 2018-11-12

Review time: 2 Days

| SCIENTIFIC QUALITY | LANGUAGE QUALITY | CONCLUSION | PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS |
|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept | Peer-Review: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language | (High priority) | <input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good | polishing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous |
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| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> No expertise |
| | | | Conflicts-of-Interest: |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes |
| | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

the results on the efficacy of treatment are not very strong, and more data are necessary to asses the role of HIF 1a inhibition in cancer therapy however the study is well designed and may be considered as preliminary data.



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- ☐ [Y] No

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Oncology

Manuscript NO: 42964

Title: Evaluation of a locked nucleic acid form of antisense oligo targeting HIF-1 α in advanced hepatocellular carcinoma

Reviewer's code: 02932624

Reviewer's country: Singapore

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2018-11-10

Date reviewed: 2018-11-13

Review time: 2 Days

| SCIENTIFIC QUALITY | LANGUAGE QUALITY | CONCLUSION | PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS |
|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept | Peer-Review: |
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| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection | <input type="checkbox"/> General |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> No expertise |
| | | | Conflicts-of-Interest: |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In the study, Wu J, et al. reported the preclinical study and phase 1b clinical study of RO7070179, a LNA antisense oligo targeting HIF-1 α in advanced hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). Dose limiting hepatotoxicity was observed and 1 out of 9 patients



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achieved partial response (PR) after 2 cycle's treatments. Another patient showed stable disease (SD). This study expands our understanding how ASO approach, once highly anticipated, really work in clinic setting. The manuscript is well written and statistical analysis is sound.

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