

## ANSWERING REVIEWERS



July 24, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: article 4095-130724.doc).

**Title:** Alteration in gene expression profile and oncogenicity of ESCC by RIZ1 upregulation

**Author:** Shang-wen Dong, Dong Li, Cong Xu, Pei Sun, Yuan-guo Wang, Peng Zhang

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 4095

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated.

2 Word has been cut out as required.

3 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer.

(1) The abstract suggests that tumors were implanted and later transfected with RIZ1. The methods describe implantation of cells that were transfected at log phase in culture and then implanted. Which was done?

The description in the abstract is consistent with that in Sec. Method. In the abstract, it aims to animal experiments, during which the transfection is carried on in 2 weeks after model foundation. However, in the Section, it is the detailed method of transfection at the log phase of gene chip experiments.

(2) The experiment is correctly designed with proper controls. Techniques for analysis appear straight forward. However, the gene expression analyses are difficult to interpret. The significance of the results in Table 1 could be more clearly explained.

Tab.1 is simply for the qualification of the gene chip testifying process. The genic expression levels are illustrated in Fig.2 before and after transfection.

(3) The data presented and the explanation is not clear for someone who does not work with microarray analysis directly. For example, the discussion in the results section gene ontology discussed the large number of changes in gene expression, but does not directly explain the data in the table.

We have already adjusted the content.

(4) The copies of the chips (Figure 3) which I received are not of sufficient quality and too complicated to interpret.

Fig.3 is the scanning photo of gene chip with sufficient pixel and resolution. For the sake of better illustration, we could offer the corresponding color photo of Fig.3. However, we still wish to publish it in black-white format afterwards in order to reduce the expenses.

(5) Specifically, what know genes were identified and quantified to support the statement that "many genes were associated with cell development, viral replication supervision, co-stimulatory molecule, and immune system

develops"? Was expression of genes that do not fit this pattern also identified? What is the significance of unknown genes which changed expression? Clearer discussion of how it was determined that the genes of interest were determined to be significant versus other pathways would be helpful.

Your comments have referred to our current and planned research work, which will be discussed and explained later on.

(6) The significance of Figure 4 is not clear. An in depth explanation of the what the graph shows and what its significance is required for the reader interested in esophageal cancer, but less knowledgeable about the molecular techniques used in this study.

Fig.4 is also the chip testifying illustration, which has been combined with Fig.3. The description of molecular technique has been simplified.

(7) The number of tables and figures is high and the data might be simplified and the manuscript shortened by eliminating redundant presentation of the data. For example, are both pictures of the tumor and tumor sized and the graph of tumor growth necessary?

Illustration of combined tumor photos and the corresponding curves together is for clarity. Further reduction could be made in order to satisfy the limit of manuscript.

(8) Minor - I believe that the term co-stimulatory in the abstract should be co-stimulation. There are other places in the manuscript where the proper form of the term is not correct.

We have checked the content.

4 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,



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