

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name:6915-review.doc).

Title: The role of the epithelial- mesenchymal transition in gastric cancer initiation and progression

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6915

Thanks very much for the reviewers' kind advices, this manuscript has been improved according to their suggestions:

1.The language of this manuscript has been improved. We have corrected the whole spelling and grammatical mistakes, and then checked the manuscript over to avoid repetitions. The sentence and punctuation of the paper also have been revised to help the understanding of it. Then this manuscript has been edited by American Journal Experts(AJE) as suggested, and get a Language Certification from AJE.

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

(1)As for the reviewer1's suggestion that the part"Role of EMT in GC tumorigenesis"of this manuscript did not explain clearly how EMT plays a critical role in the generation and maintenance of cancer stem cells, we have added the involved mechanisms about it.

(2)We have added the discussion about the involved the epigenetic machinery including DNA methylation, histone modifications, and microRNAs during EMT and its relevance with gastric cancer according to the reviewer2's suggestion.

(3)The improper expression that call patients to victims in this manuscript have been corrected.

(4)According to the reviewer3's suggestion, we have add some alternative explanations and relevant studies to present our conclusions more reasonable.

3. References have been updated.

4. The format of this review has been revised according to the “BPG’s Revision Policies for Topic Highlight” and “Format for topic highlight”.

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

Sincerely yours,

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