

Dear Editors and Reviewers:

Thank you for your letter and for the reviewers' comments concerning our manuscript entitled "Long non-coding RNA HOTAIR epigenetically silences E-cadherin by binding to EZH2 to promote tumor cell invasion and metastasis in gastric cancer" (ID: 32095). Those comments are all valuable and very helpful for revising and improving our paper. We have studied comments carefully and have made correction which we hope meet with approval.

Sincerely Yours,

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The main corrections in the paper and the responses to the reviewer's comments are as following:

Reviewer #1:

1. **The reviewer's comment:** To further elaborate it, rescue experiments should be performed in Figure 4.

Response: Thanks for your helpful suggestion. We performed rescue experiments in Figure.4C (revised version).

2. **The reviewer's comment:**Quantitative data should be presented in Figure 2;

Response: We thank for your suggestion. Quantitative data is presented in Figure 2 (B,D,F and H).The cell numbers per field were counted and the results are summarized in a bar graph. * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$.

3. **The reviewer's comment:** High background of IHC staining;

Response: Figures have been changed as suggested(Figure3A, revised version).

4. **The reviewer's comment:** Many language issues such as “We first found that HOTAIR was remarkable upregulated in GC tissues” ,” These results indicate that HOTAIR overexpression play an important role in metastasis—“;

Response: The text has been changed as suggested. All of the revisions are highlighted in the revised version of manuscript.

5. **The reviewer's comment:** There is no experiment in demonstrating the effect of HOTAIR on in vivo metastasis, and thus, “metastasis” should be removed from the title.

Response: Thanks for your comments. Title was changed as your suggestion.

Reviewer #2:

1. **The reviewer's comment:** Moreover, the experimental study does not demonstrate the role of HOTAIR on the metastatic process “in vivo”; so, please re-consider the appropriateness of the conclusions.

Response: Thanks for your reminder. We have re-drawn our conclusions in the revised version of manuscript.