

Dear Editor,

We have recently submitted an invited manuscript (ID 65145 - "Immune aspects of hepatocellular carcinoma - from immune markers for early detection to immunotherapy") in order to be appreciated for publication in the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology. Now, we would like to resubmit it after answering to the reviewer's comments (please see below).

We would like to thank the reviewer for his/her thorough evaluation of our work and for his/her relevant suggestion. We hope that, after considering our answer to his/her comments and the changes in the manuscript, you will find it suitable for publication in its present form.

We would also like to inform that self-cited references are under 10% of the total number of references in the manuscript.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,

Angelo Z. Mattos

Response to reviewer's comments:

Dear Reviewer,

Thank you very much for your comments on our paper.

According to your request, we have added a paragraph on the role of tumor-associated macrophages to the section on the "Immune aspects of hepatocarcinogenesis" (page 7, lines 14-29). We are certain that this addition has substantially enriched our text on the immune mechanisms of hepatocarcinogenesis.

Thank you again for this suggestion, which allowed us to greatly improve our manuscript. We hope that you will now consider our manuscript suitable for publication in the World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology.