

Dear reviewer:

I'm so glad that you can appreciate my article "Effect of HP on Wnt/ $\beta$ -catenin signaling pathway in mice with precancerous lesions of gastric cancer and the role of Moluodan

" and approve of the modelling approach used in it! Thank you very much for your review!

After reviewing the latest national and international literature, my team and I chose to construct a mouse model of gastric precancerous lesions using N-methyl-N-nitrosourea. In order to establish a more successful mouse model of precancerous lesions and HP infection, we used a series of methods such as high salt gavage, satiation and starvation disorders, and acid suppression. In particular, before gavaging the mice with HP, we applied NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, which was designed to neutralise the gastric acid and facilitate the better colonisation of HP in the stomach. This is what you are confused about, so I clarify it to you here.

Moluodan is commonly used in China as a proprietary Chinese medicine for the treatment of indigestion and other diseases. Its efficacy in gastric pre-cancer requires further research in the future, and my team and I will further explore its wider clinical applications. In the clinical setting, we will also conduct relevant studies to verify whether the findings are the same as those of our animal experiments. At last, thank you again for your careful and conscientious comments and I wish you all the best!

Yours,

Sincerely!

Changping Li  
20th December 2023