

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for your critical comments on our manuscript. The reviewers had positive responses to our study. There were some revisions needed to be made. Now, we have revised as suggested by the Reviewers. Revisions (marked in red color) have been made according to the Reviewers' comments, which were very helpful in improving presentation. Please refer to the list of **Responses to Reviewers**.

We hope that the revised manuscript will be satisfactory for publication in the *World Journal of Stem Cells*, and look forward to hearing from you about the acceptability of the review paper.

With best personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Ming-Ming Tsai, Ph.D.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ming Ming Tsai". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'M' and 'T'.

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Molecular mechanism of therapeutic approaches for human gastric cancer stem cells

Tsai MM *et al.* Molecular mechanism of cell markers in GCSCs

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Responses to Reviewers

1. Reviewers #1 comments:

This a very well-written and structured review on a hot topic on gastric cancer research. All the figures used are very useful for a whole comprehension. The only concern this reviewer has is that a Concluding Remarks section will be very useful to summarize all the topics covered as well as the future directions and challenges.

Response:

Thank you very much for your review and affirmation.

2. Science editor's comments:

1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a review of the molecular mechanism of therapeutic approaches for human gastric cancer stem cells. The topic is within the scope of the WJSC. (1) Classification: Grade B and Grade C; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: The authors found a very wellwritten and structured review on a hot topic on gastric cancer research. However, a concluding remarks section will be very useful to summarize all the topics covered as well as the future directions and challenges; and (3) Format: There are 3 tables and 3 figures. (4) References: A total of 101 references are cited, including 5 references published in the last 3 years; (5) Self-cited references: There are no self-cited references; and (6) References recommend: The authors have the right to refuse to cite improper references recommended by peer reviewer(s), especially the references published by the peer reviewer(s) themselves. If the authors found the peer reviewer(s) request the authors to cite improper references published by themselves, please send the peer reviewer's ID number to the editorialoffice@wjgnet.com. The Editorial Office will close and remove the peer reviewer from the F6Publishing system immediately.

2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade A.

3 Academic norms and rules: No academic misconduct was found in the Bing search.

4 Supplementary comments: This is an invited manuscript. The study was supported by 8 grants. The topic has not previously been published in the WJSC.

5 Issues raised: (1) The title is too long, and it should be no more than 18 words; (2) The authors did not provide the approved grant application form(s). Please upload the approved grant application form(s) or funding agency copy of any approval document(s); (3) The authors did not provide original pictures. Please provide the original figure

documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor; and (4) Please obtain permission for the use of picture(s). If an author of a submission is re-using a figure or figures published elsewhere, or that is copyrighted, the author must provide documentation that the previous publisher or copyright holder has given permission for the figure to be re-published; and correctly indicating the reference source and copyrights. For example, "Figure 1 Histopathological examination by hematoxylin-eosin staining (200 ×). A: Control group; B: Model group; C: Pioglitazone hydrochloride group; D: Chinese herbal medicine group. Citation: Yang JM, Sun Y, Wang M, Zhang XL, Zhang SJ, Gao YS, Chen L, Wu MY, Zhou L, Zhou YM, Wang Y, Zheng FJ, Li YH. Regulatory effect of a Chinese herbal medicine formula on non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. World J Gastroenterol 2019; 25(34): 5105-5119. Copyright ©The Author(s) 2019. Published by Baishideng Publishing Group Inc [6]". And please cite the reference source in the references list. If the author fails to properly cite the published or copyrighted picture(s) or table(s)

as described above, he/she will be subject to withdrawal of the article from BPG publications and may even be held liable.

6 Recommendation: Conditional acceptance.

Response:

Thank you very much for your review and affirmation. We have provided the approved grant application form(s) or funding agency copy of any approval document(s) and the original figure documents. Moreover, the article has been revised by NPG Language Editing. Thanks again for your valuable suggestions. I look forward to your favorable reply.

3. Company editor-in-chief's comments:

I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Stem Cells, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors.

Response:

Thank you very much for your review and affirmation. We have rechecked and

completed various corrections according to the Reviewers and Science editor.