

19 Sep 2016

Dear Reviewer:

Thank you for taking the time to read our manuscript *Disease Monitoring of Hepatocellular Carcinoma through Metabolomics* and for offering thoughtful guidance on how to best deliver the findings within our review to the research community. We agree that a consistent, predictable and user-friendly abbreviation method will best enable readers to best navigate the myriad metabolic signatures involved in the referenced metabolomic profiling works.

We have performed a thorough analysis of the abbreviations used in our manuscript and made necessary changes to (1) ensure that abbreviations are introduced at the appropriate time and (2) eliminate redundancy in the utilization of long-form names and introduction of the abbreviations. We also removed the duplicate sentence you identified and performed a careful grammatical analysis of the manuscript, shoring up the remaining grammatical errors within it. We also added a table header to table 1A.

Thank you again for helping us maximize the readability of our manuscript.

Sincerely,

Asem Fitian, M.S.