

## Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



March 16th, 2014

**Title:** The microRNA regulation network in colorectal cancer metastasis

**Author:** Jiaojiao Zhou, Shu Zheng, Lifeng Sun, and Lei Zheng

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Biological Chemistry*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 7535

Dear Editors,

Enclosed please find our revised manuscript, entitled “The microRNA regulation network in colorectal cancer metastasis” by Zhou et al. We appreciate reviewers’ comments and have revised the manuscript according to reviewers’ suggestions.

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

### **1 Format has been updated**

### **2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer**

(1) *Reviewers’ point: It would be better if authors can briefly describe the general role of microRNAs in the regulation of tumorigenesis and cancer development in the introduction part and then focus on the colorectal cancer metastasis.*

We appreciate this comment and have added a paragraph in Introduction that begins with “Accumulated evidence has suggested that microRNAs directly participate in the tumorigenesis process of colorectal cancer, especially through the posttranscriptional regulation...”, to describe the general role of microRNAs in the regulation of tumorigenesis and cancer development

(2) *Reviewers’ point: As a review, more details and discussions should be presented in sections such as “MicroRNAs in pathways of colorectal cancer metastasis”, “MicroRNAs in Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transition”, and “MicroRNAs in Angiogenesis”. Tables should be presented to summarize microRNAs which have been proven to play roles in CRC metastasis by previous study.*

We appreciate this comment and have added more details and discussions should be presented in sections such as “MicroRNAs in pathways of colorectal cancer metastasis”, “MicroRNAs in Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transition”, and “MicroRNAs in Angiogenesis”. We have also added a table (Table 1) to summarize microRNAs which have been proven to play roles in CRC metastasis.

(3) *Reviewers’ point: Authors showed many data of miRNA for colonic cancer from references. But they did not tell the reader which miRNA expression is important for metastasis and/or recurrence of colonic cancer. I suggest that authors need to expand their comments on these data.*

We appreciate this comment and have added the information on which miRNA expression is important for metastasis of colorectal cancer in Table 1. We have also indicated that multiple microRNAs are important for metastasis of colorectal by forming a regulatory network.

(4) *Reviewers’ point: Authors described that the study of the expression of miRNA can be a marker for colonic*

*cancers. But in this review, there was no data of the expression of miRNA from early stage of colonic cancer. I suggest that authors need to add the data of early stage of cancer.*

We appreciate this comment and have added a paragraph in Introduction to describe the role miRNA in early stages of colorectal cancer.

**3 References and typesetting were corrected.**

Thank you for reviewing our manuscript and considering it for publication in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lei Zheng', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lei Zheng, M.D., Ph.D.