

Reply to Editor:

We thank the Editors for the comments provided. Adjustments have been made according to the suggestions. We hope the findings reported here may contribute to making cancer therapy more effective and safer.

(1) Science Editor:

Reviewer #1:

Scientific Quality: Grade A (Excellent)

Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)

Conclusion: Accept (General priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: This is a well-written paper by expert scientist on the field.

(2) Editorial Office Director:

(1) Science editor:

1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a basic study which described deciphering of the clues that pointed to DDR1 as the putative receptor for HN-1. The topic is within the scope of the WJCO. **(1) Classification: Grade A;** **(2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report:** The authors conducted a well-written paper by expert scientist on the field (Accept). It provides some data on metastatic cancers. **(3) Format:** There are 4 figures and 0 table in the manuscript. **(4) References:** A total of 71 references are cited, with 17 references published in the last 3 years; **(5) Self-cited references:** There are 1 self-cited references. **(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.

No further modifications have been made.

2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade A. The author team is from USA with no language editing certificate provided. The manuscript has been proofread and polished by Klaus Linse, a native speaker who is listed as a co-author for contributing computer-based molecular modeling data of HN-1 peptide.

3 Academic norms and rules: The authors did not provide the Institutional Review Board Approval Form (Not applicable), The ARRIVE Guidelines (Not applicable), Biostatistics Review Certificate (Not applicable), and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

Approval Form or Document (Not applicable). Conflict of interest was stated in the manuscript. No academic misconduct was found in the Bing search. (Screenshot image of the Bing search result cannot be uploaded because web server returned unexpected response.).

As animal experiment was **not** conducted, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Approval Form, ARRIVE Guidelines, or Biostatistics Review Certificate was not available.

As human study was **not** conducted, Institutional Review Board Approval Form was not available.

Conflict of Interest form has been uploaded.

4 Supplementary comments: This is an invited manuscript with no fund support. The topic has not previously been published in the WJCO.

5 Issues raised: (1) The title is too long, and it should be no more than 18 words;

Per suggestion, the title has been changed to

"Tumor specifically internalizing peptide 'HN-1': targeting the putative receptor retinoblastoma-regulated discoidin domain receptor 1 involved in metastasis"

(total number of words = 17).

6 Re-Review: Not required.

7 Recommendation: Conditional acceptance.

(3) Company Editor-in-chief:

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 Clinical Oncology, 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. The title of the manuscript is too long and must be shortened to meet the requirement of the journal (Title: The title should be no more than 18 words)

Per suggestion, the title has now been changed to

"Tumor specifically internalizing peptide 'HN-1': targeting the putative receptor retinoblastoma-regulated discoidin domain receptor 1 involved in metastasis"

(total number of words = 17).