Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology*

Manuscript NO: 90651

Title: Plexin domain-containing 1 may be a biomarker of poor prognosis in hepatocellular carcinoma patients, may mediate immune evasion

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer’s code: 00053659

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor, Surgeon

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: Japan

Author’s Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-12-10

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ru Fan

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-12-24 03:48

Reviewer performed review: 2023-12-24 04:52

Review time: 1 Hour

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
Tang et al. investigated PLXDC1 expression in HCC patients who were primarily HBV-infected. The format of this manuscript does not follow the guidelines. There are many analyses and results; however, clinical variables are too few to conclude. ALBI score and APRI score should be included in the analysis. Otherwise, ALBIPLEXDC1 expression may correlate with reduced survival rates and indicate a risk factor for HCC progression. The implication of immune evasion is interesting.
PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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Reviewer’s code: 02461627

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: United Arab Emirates

Author’s Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-12-10

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ru Fan

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-12-24 07:57

Reviewer performed review: 2024-01-04 13:50

Review time: 11 Days and 5 Hours

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The results of the manuscript entitled “PLXDC1 may be a biomarker of poor prognosis in hepatocellular carcinoma and mediates immune evasion” and authored by Tang et al demonstrated that this study analyzed PLXDC1 from multiple biological perspectives and found that PLXDC1 is a biomarker of poor prognosis and mediates the immune evasion status of HCC. Before focusing on HCC, it would be beneficial to include a broader overview of targeted pathways and their impacts on enhancing human health. The following studies investigate pathways that have been targeted to treat/prevent different diseases and should be integrated: PMID: 37450997, https://doi.org/10.1186/s41936-020-00177-9, PMID: 34662244, PMID: 33782460, https://www.scirp.org/journal/paperinformation.aspx?paperid=7085 and PMID: 28879232 (specifically for bioinformatics methodology). Relevant patents for pathways targeted to treat/prevent HCC should also be discussed. Detailed comments • Careful proofreading is REQUIRED. • Abbreviation list should be carefully reviewed. • More in-depth discussion is needed. • The following studies should be considered to enrich the discussion and update the references list:
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Professional title: Professor, Surgeon
Reviewer’s Country/Territory: Japan
Author’s Country/Territory: China
Manuscript submission date: 2023-12-10
Reviewer chosen by: Yu-Lu Chen
Reviewer accepted review: 2024-01-30 11:21
Reviewer performed review: 2024-01-30 23:37
Review time: 12 Hours

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Congratulations on finding additional prognostic factors. However, the text has no statement regarding these novel findings, including methods, results, and discussion. It would be interesting to confirm it by applying survival ROC with four independent prognostic factors. Survival analysis should use cirrhosis, ALBI score, APRI score, and riskScore rather than age, gender, and grade.
RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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Professional title: Professor
Reviewer’s Country/Territory: United Arab Emirates
Author’s Country/Territory: China
Manuscript submission date: 2023-12-10
Reviewer chosen by: Yu-Lu Chen
Reviewer accepted review: 2024-01-31 06:45
Reviewer performed review: 2024-01-31 06:48
Review time: 1 Hour

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| Peer-reviewer | Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous | [ ] Onymous |


SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

none