PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

Manuscript NO: 67322

Title: Regulatory role of the TGF-β signalling pathway in the drug resistance of gastrointestinal cancers

Reviewer’s code: 05384570

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: Malaysia

Author’s Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-04-29

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-05-06 04:53

Reviewer performed review: 2021-05-10 06:01

Review time: 4 Days and 1 Hour

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific quality</th>
<th>[ ] Grade A: Excellent</th>
<th>[ ] Grade B: Very good</th>
<th>[Y] Grade C: Good</th>
<th>[ ] Grade D: Fair</th>
<th>[ ] Grade E: Do not publish</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language quality</td>
<td>[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing</td>
<td>[Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing</td>
<td>[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing</td>
<td>[ ] Grade D: Rejection</td>
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<td>Conclusion</td>
<td>[ ] Accept (High priority)</td>
<td>[ ] Accept (General priority)</td>
<td>[Y] Minor revision</td>
<td>[ ] Major revision</td>
<td>[ ] Rejection</td>
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<td>Re-review</td>
<td>[Y] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>Peer-reviewer statements</td>
<td>Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous</td>
<td>[ ] Onymous</td>
<td>Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes</td>
<td>[Y] No</td>
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
This is an interesting review. I have a few comments regarding the review: 1. 'Gastrointestinal (GI) cancers, including oesophageal cancer (EC), gastric cancer (GC), and colorectal cancer (CRC), are the most prevalent types of malignant carcinomas and they account for a large number of cancer deaths according to the global cancer statistics'. It will be good to provide relevant statistics in percentages instead of saying 'large number'.

2. Please define the abbreviation ABC transporter in the first account. 3. Figures and diagrams on the mechanisms of chemoresistance and TGF-B signalling pathway will be useful. 4. Mechanisms of action of different chemotherapy should be added in the conventional chemotherapy section. 5. The report would be more interesting if the authors can provide clinical data, i.e. chemotherapy resistance on patients with GI cancers reported in different case reports or clinical study on top on experimental data. 6. The authors should discuss on the prognosis of patients with chemotherapy resistance GI cancers based on clinical data, the alternatives i.e. expand further on small-molecule inhibitors of TGF-β signalling and future direction of research on this topics.