



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Virology
Manuscript NO: 36548
Title: Retinoic acid receptor beta promoter methylation and risk of cervical cancer
Reviewer’s code: 02447901
Reviewer’s country: Taiwan
Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji
Date sent for review: 2017-10-06
Date reviewed: 2017-10-15
Review time: 8 Days

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Although there have contradictory findings, most studies indicate that downregulation of RAR expression and its epigenetic methylation show prognostic roles in cervical cancer. Thus, this review manuscript gave an overall background of cervical cancer and its risk factors focusing on HPV and RAR. The contents of current manuscript might promote understanding of cervical cancer etiology, particularly the RAR. Minor comments for improvement of comprehension were appended. 1. Not only one biomarker can be helpful in disease prediction. Since RAR and TSGs are focuses of this manuscript, the information of additional combinatory candidates other than RAR is helpful. 2. The correlation between HPV and RAR methylation is interesting. 3. Epigenetic modification of genes consists of several mechanisms. Though the title focused on promoter methylation, other kinds of RAR epigenetic modification could further highlight its importance and clinical relevance.



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Virology
Manuscript NO: 36548
Title: Retinoic acid receptor beta promoter methylation and risk of cervical cancer
Reviewer’s code: 00504167
Reviewer’s country: Italy
Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji
Date sent for review: 2017-10-17
Date reviewed: 2017-10-21
Review time: 4 Days

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Revision manuscript n. 36548 entitled: Retinoic acid receptor beta (RAR β) promoter methylation and risk of cervical cancer The authors of this review give an overview of the most recent works on retinoic acid receptor β promoter methylation and its relationship with progression of cervical cancer lesions and tumor development. Although, the methylation of a single gene is not sufficient to explain the complex process of cell transformation and cancer development, the majority of the study published so far suggest that the hypermethylation of RAR β gene may have a role in cervical carcinogenesis. The review is quite clear and easy to follow; however, some corrections are required: Abstract: Line2, replace, “underdeveloped” with “developing” Core tip: place a comma after “Thus” Paragraph “Genome of HPV”: Line 5, correct “later” with “late” Replace “at least 30 genotypes” with “at least 40 genotypes” Insert page number Last conclusive paragraph: “Although DNA methylation of only one gene may



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not represent of the...", delete "of" before "the".



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Virology
Manuscript NO: 36548
Title: Retinoic acid receptor beta promoter methylation and risk of cervical cancer
Reviewer’s code: 02363472
Reviewer’s country: United States
Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji
Date sent for review: 2017-10-17
Date reviewed: 2017-10-27
Review time: 10 Days

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. The 2nd and 3rd sentences of the abstract, the biological connection between HPV infection and hypermethylation needs to be clarified or justified. 2. On page 8 in the middle of the page, “Several studies have found that DNA methylation frequently occurs in cervical cells but rarely in normal cells, suggesting that aberrant methylation may indicate risk of cancer development.” This statement is rather confusing. For one, DNA methylation is a modification that happens in both normal and cancer cells. For two, the “aberrant methylation” was not defined. Hypermethylation? 3. In general, methylation vs hypermethylation is not clearly defined and differentiated, which complicated data interpretation throughout the review.