

Department of Surgery,  
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland,  
RCSI Education and Research Centre,  
Smurfit Building,  
Beaumont Hospital,  
Dublin 9,  
Ireland

21 September 2015

**RE: ESPS Manuscript NO:** 20525  
**Manuscript Type:** Review  
**Title:** Changing face of adhesion in carcinomas: cell-cell and cell-matrix crosstalk  
**Authors:** Yvonne E Smith, Sri HariKrishna Vellanki, Ann M Hopkins

Dear Dr. Fang-Fang Ji,

Thank you for the review of our manuscript, and the opportunity to address the comments and resubmit a revised manuscript. We have endeavored to address all the points comprehensively, and we are confident that the revision has greatly improved the clarity of our review. Please find on the next pages our detailed responses to each individual point raised by the reviewers. Any additions to the manuscript text have been annotated in red font, and any deletions have been noted as strikethroughs in red font. We hope the manuscript is now acceptable for publication in *World Journal of Biological Chemistry*.

Yours sincerely,



---

Dr Ann M Hopkins

**REVIEWER 00533358:**

1. *Please revise the text since there are some typos and some abbreviations not properly specified*

Response: We apologise for such errors. The text has been revised to address any typographical errors and unspecified abbreviations.

2. *Please revise Figure 1: the list of the proteins for the different kind of junctions is not complete and the reasons for selection are not clear; the gap junction is not discussed in the text*

Response: Figure 1 has been edited to clarify that the list of proteins for the different kinds of junctions is non-exhaustive but rather representative of examples discussed in the text. The gap junction was removed as this was not discussed in the text.

3. *Please revise the Figure 2, since it is not clear: it should be modified or, otherwise eliminated*

Response: We apologise for the lack of clarity. Figure 2 has been eliminated as recommended.

4. *The part concerning potential therapeutic application should be improved and updated; in particular: the sentence concerning anti-EGF receptors and breast cancer should be corrected (page 21)*

Response: An additional reference has been added to support the statement about EGF receptor family members being overexpressed in cancer (ref. 118). Another reference has been added to direct the reader towards an overview of current EGF receptor inhibitors (ref. 120, specifically Fig. 1 and Tables 1 and 2 therein).

5. *The literature references concerning clinical trials in breast cancer patients should be modified and updated (page 22, first paragraph)*

Response: References have been updated as suggested.

6. *When talking about dasatinib in breast cancer the authors should highlight in the text that they are referring to preclinical data*

Response: Thank you for pointing this out. We have highlighted in the text on page 22 of the reviewed manuscript that preclinical data is being referred to.

7. *The reference 124 and 125 refers to gastric and prostate cancer, not to breast cancer*

Response: We apologise for the confusion. The manuscript text has been edited to clarify that gastric and prostate cancer are being referred to (page 22); and a citation referring to breast cancer has been added (reference 133).

8. *A table summarizing the drugs currently in clinical development potentially affecting the cell-cell and cell-matrix crosstalk would be helpful*

Response: We agree that this would be fascinating. However an undertaking of such a significant nature is beyond the scope of this review article, and we will endeavour to incorporate such into a future review article.

**REVIEWER 02991769**

This reviewer suggested acceptance with no corrections.