Author's response to reviews

Title: The nontoxic natural compound Curcumin exerts anti-proliferative, anti-migratory, and anti-invasive properties against malignant gliomas

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Response to the Reviewer:

Dear Reviewer,

we greatly appreciate your thorough review of our manuscript. We are thankful for your thoughtful comments and suggestions, which we all followed.

We have repeated rt-PCRs in MZ-256 and MZ-304 cell lines using new primers. These provided data that correspond better to the results of proliferation assays; The standard deviation is also reduced, resulting in statistically significant effects on c-Myc and Ki-67 expression. We incorporated the new data in Fig. 1C/D.

Additionally, we performed wash out experiments demonstrating that Curcumin does not irreversibly inhibit STAT3 phosphorylation. New data are presented in Fig. 2B.

Finally, we performed caspase assays to test for apoptosis. Here, we did not observe a significant induction of caspase 3-like DEVD cleavage activity, indicating that apoptosis does not play a major role.

We also corrected labelling of the ordinate in Fig. 2C and 2D in our revised manuscript. In summary, both Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 were altered. To facilitate the re-reviewing process, we highlighted all changes to the manuscript.

We hope that you are satisfied with the provided changes, and would be very pleased if you would judge our work to be a valuable addition to the scientific literature.

On behalf of all authors

C. Senft