Author's response to reviews

Title: MicroRNA-27a promotes proliferation and suppresses apoptosis by targeting PLK2 in laryngeal carcinoma

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Dear Editors,

Thanks for your kind consideration again. Because Reviewer 1, 2 and 3 thought that the revised manuscript is acceptable, I would like to answer the questions raised by Reviewer 4.

Reviewer 4:

Questions: In figure 4 of the revised manuscript, it looks like that there does not appear any considerable difference of protein expression between normal and cancer tissue, especially in the right panel, meanwhile the cancer tissues showed down-regulation, dramatically in all tissues at the bottom panel. Due to this discrepancy, the data cannot obtain high credit.

Answer: As indicated in the legends of the revised manuscript, the images at the above panels of Figure 4C are the representatives of Western blot detection (4 pairs in the right panel and 4 pairs in the left panel). T and R show cancer tissue and the paired adjacent tissue, respectively. In each pair or case, we can find that PLK2 protein levels is relatively low in cancer tissue.

Data at the bottom panel of Figure 4C display the relative expression calculated as the ratio of PLK2 protein level in cancer tissue to that in the paired adjacent
tissue in each case, which mean that each bar represents the relative expression of PLK2 protein in each case. For an example, bar 1 at the bottom panel of Figure 4C indicates the relative expression of PLK2 protein level in cancer tissue to that in the paired adjacent tissue in case 1. As we selected the cases with miR-27a up-regulation for Western blot analysis, it is reasonable that PLK2 was down-regulated in these cases. We assure that these data are authentic and scientific.

In addition to the above explanation, we have given a point-by-point response to the four reviewers in our last revised manuscript.

Looking forward to your kind reply.

With my best regards
Sincerely yours

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