Author's response to reviews

Title: Insulin-like growth factor I activates apoptotic pathways in colorectal cancer cells

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Dear Editor,

We should be grateful if you consider the attached paper titled “Insulin-like growth factor I activates apoptotic pathways in colorectal cancer cells” for publication in the “BMC cancer”. We confirm that the paper has not been published in any other scientific journal.

Insulin-like growth factor (IGF-I) is known to play a prominent role in cancer development and progression. The role of IGF-I in cancer apoptosis remains controversial. Although it has been established that IGF-I protect cancer cells from variety of apoptotic challenges; there were also some observations, however, showing that IGF-I enhances the apoptosis in various cells. Given the fact that the IGF system has become an attractive molecular target for anticancer therapies, it is necessary and important to determine the relationship between IGF-I pathways and apoptotic pathways. In this study it is the first time to show that IGF-I activates both the extrinsic and the intrinsic apoptotic pathways in colorectal cancer cells. We hope it can benefit the anti-cancer researches by sharing these data with our colleagues.

Thank you

Yours sincerely

Shi Yu Yang, PhD