Author's response to reviews

Title: Saikosaponin-d Increases the Radiosensitivity of Hepatocellular Carcinoma Cell line SMMC-7721 by Adjusting the G0/G1 and G2/M Checkpoints of Cell Cycle

Authors:

wang baofeng (wangbf1680@126.com)  
Zhi-Jun Dai (dzi0911@126.com)  
Xi-Jing Wang (wangxijing@21cn.com)  
Ming-Hua Bai (baimh2004@126.com)  
Shuai Lin (linshuai420@stu.xjtu.edu.cn)  
Hong-Bing Ma (mahongbingxa@126.com)  
Ya-Li Wang (wangyili@mail.xjtu.edu.cn)  
Ling-Qin Song (songlingqin@163.com)  
Xiu-Long Ma (583513169@qq.com)  
Ying Zan (zzqq76@sina.com)  
Wei-Li Min (mwl791218@126.com)  
Yan-An Cheng (cheng.yanan@163.com)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

We would like to submit the enclosed manuscript entitled "**Saikosaponin-d Increases the Radiosensitivity of Hepatocellular Carcinoma Cell line SMMC-7721 by Adjusting the G0/G1 and G2/M Checkpoints of Cell Cycle**", which we wish to be considered for publication in BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

Our recent clinical study on the therapeutic efficacy of combining SSd administration with radiation therapy in treating patients with hepatocellular carcinoma revealed that the combination treatment was more effective than either monotherapy alone, indicating a contributory effect of SSd on radiotherapy. However, the molecular mechanisms of SSd's radio-sensitization effect on hepatocellular carcinoma cell remains unclear. To investigate the radiosensitive effect and therapeutic efficacy of SSd, we combined SSd with radiation therapy to treat hepatocellular carcinoma cell under oxic and hypoxic conditions.

In this experiment, hypoxic condition is established by CoCl$_2$ chemically induced. Our study provides evidences for radiosensitizing effect of SSd on hepatocellular carcinoma cell, which may be related to its function to affect Go/G1 and G2/M checkpoints of cell cycle. Hopefully, SSd can be a potential candidate of sensitizer in hepatoma radiotherapy.

All authors of this paper have read and approved the final version submitted. This paper is is only submitted to this Journal and never published elsewhere. We certify that this study was performed according to the international, national and institutional rules. We all have reviewed the final version of the manuscript and approve it for publication.

We thank you for your time and consideration of this manuscript.

Sincerely,
Wang baofeng
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