Author's response to reviews

Title: HCS inhibits metastasis of pancreatic cancer in mice model of human tumor xenograft

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Response to the comment1 and comment2:

Comment1:

1. Paragraph 1 of the Results section: statistical analyses are needed following the description of inhibition rate.

Response: statistical analyses have followed the description.

2. Page 7, lines 1-2 from bottom, and elsewhere throughout the manuscript: the authors listed the percentages without standard deviations or errors, and sample numbers. Also, the authors listed P values without mentioning statistical methods used.

Response: standard deviations have been added as for this suggestion. statistical methods have been listed in details in the paragraph “Statistical analysis”.

3. Page 9, line 3, it should probably be P=0.038, not P<0.038?

Response: yes, P=0.038. It has been revised.
4. The legends for figures are missing.

Response: The legends for figures was typed in the additional word, but the additional was uploaded in failure last time.

5. All figures seem blurry, a higher resolution is needed.

Response: have given the figures with higher resolution.

6. The link to the Additional files can be opened but it doesn’t show anything.

Response: the additional was uploaded in failure last time.

Comment2

1. In “Introduction” section, the purpose of the current study is unclear. Please add some detailed contents including the current therapy of pancreatic cancer, the reports on HCS anti-pancreatic-cancer, and the mechanisms of pancreatic cancer metastasis.

Response: contents above have been added.

2. There is lack of detailed pathway on the mechanisms of HCS anti-pancreatic-cancer metastasis in the current study.

Response: anti-pancreatic-cancer metastasis mechanism of HCS have little been
studied, not to mention its clear detailed pathway of anti-metastasis to pancreatic cancer. Though, we have been observing HCS’s action in the pathway of Smad4 signal. At present, the study of HCS in this experiment is only still in an original state, designed to microenvironments of pancreatic cancer such as tumor-stroma abundant of MMPs, VEGF and FGF etc.

3. It should be better if delete the abbreviation of Huachansu injection or (HCS) in the title.

Response: HCS has been deleted.

4. The dosage units of Huachansu injection are not unified. Please revise them.

Response: the dosage units of Huachansu injection has been unified.

5. There are some small errors should be attention including spelling, punctuation and spaces. Moreover, it should be better if the manuscript will be proofread by native English speakers.: 

Response: that errors have been corrected as much as possible.