Author's response to reviews

Title: The role of cytoplasmic p57 in invasion of hepatocellular carcinoma

Authors:

Hui Guo (guohuihappy97@163.com)
Yi Li (liyi_712@163.com)
Tao Tian (tiantao0607@163.com)
Lili Han (61439376@qq.com)
Zhiping Ruan (zopor@163.com)
Xuan Liang (elva_0209@126.com)
Wenjuan Wang (wangwenjuan1983@tom.com)
Kejun Nan (nankj@163.com)

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

Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) is one of the most frequent and poorly prognostic human malignancies. At present, it lacks a predictive marker in behavior of HCC cells and an effective target in HCC therapy. Our previous research suggests the downregulation of p57 accelerates the growth and invasion of HCC \textit{in vitro} and \textit{in vivo}. Moreover, cytoplasmic expression of p57 was observed in HCC tissue and HCC cell lines. It has been reported that cytoplasmic p21 and p27, the sibling of p57, might play a role as oncogenes in some human cancers. However, the role and mechanism of cytoplasmic p57 in the invasion of HCC is poorly understood. In this study, we observed that cytoplasmic p57 was reduced in specimens with invasion and metastasis. Co-expression of p57 and p-cofilin in the cytoplasm was decreased in specimens with invasion and metastasis. We further proved that p57 downregulation decreased the assembly of p57 with LIMK1 and the level of p-cofilin by affecting LIMK1 activity in the cytoplasm. Our results supported that cytoplasmic p57 was an inhibitor of the invasion and metastasis of HCC and as a promising target for HCC prevention and therapy.

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Moreover, I am very sorry to ignore some details of format. Thank you for your suggestions. I have revised the manuscript according to your requirement with a
point-by-point description of the changes made..

1. Line numbering: added

2. List of abbreviations (if any): added

3. Please change "Disclosure of Competing interests" into "Competing interests": revised.

Sincerely,

Hui Guo