Author’s response to reviews

Title: p53 expression in patients with ulcerative colitis - associated with dysplasia and carcinoma: a systematic meta-analysis

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editors and Reviewers:

Thank you for your letter and for the reviewers’ comments concerning our manuscript (BMGE-D-17-00175R1). These comments are all valuable and very helpful for revising and improving our manuscript, as well as the important guiding significance to our researches. We have studied comments carefully and have made corrections in accordance with approval. We have made all the required changes suggested by the editor and the reviewers. Please find our point by point response to all the inquiries as follows:

Editor Comments:

BMC Gastroenterology operates a policy of open peer review, which means that you will be able to see the names of the reviewers who provided the reports via the online peer review system. We encourage you to also view the reports there, via the action links on the left-hand side of the page, to see the names of the reviewers.

Response: Dear Editor, thank you for your precious suggestions.

Reviewer reports:

Jun Sheng (Reviewer 1): The paper can be accepted after this revision.

Response: Dear Pro. Sheng, thank you for your approval.
Julajak Limsrivilai (Reviewer 2): I would like to thank the authors for addressing my comments on the previous version. I have a few remaining comments.

Response: Dear Pro. Limsrivilai, thank you for your kind approval and precious comments.

1. I commented that some eligible patients (patients with UC and had P53 evaluation) were not included in this meta-analysis because they were reported in the articles including both Crohn's disease and UC. The author responded to this comment by stating in the limitation that "Finally, three eligible studies reported the data between p53 expression and dysplasia and cancer in patients with IBD [43-45], more studies with large sample sizes are essential to further perform a meta-analysis to assess the correlation of p53 expression in IBD in the future.". In my opinion, the limitation is that the author could not include all UC patients who had p53 evaluation because the studies reporting p53 expression in IBD did not report the results of UC and Crohn's separately.

Response: Dear Pro. Limsrivilai, thank you for your precious suggestion. Please forgive us and we feel very sorry, we misunderstand your good comment. Therefore, we have re-revised our statement in Discussion section (Highlighting, Discussion section, Page 11, line 14).

2. The author used Newcastle-Ottowa scale in evaluation of the quality of the included studies, and added the total scores in Table 1, but without the detail of the score in each category. It would be better to show the complete results in another table, possibly as a supplementary document.

Response: Dear Pro. Limsrivilai, thank you very much for your nice comment. We have added the total scores as a supplementary Table S1 (Highlighting, Supporting information, Page 17, line 12).

Declarations

- Ethics approval and consent to participate
- Consent to publish
- Availability of data and materials
- Competing interests
- Funding
- Authors' Contributions
- Acknowledgements
- Authors' Information

Response: Thank you for your precious suggestions. The above information had been shown in our manuscript (Declarations section, Page 12).

We have response the relevant reviewer comments in this manuscript. These changes will not influence the content and framework of the paper. And here we did not list the changes but marked by highlighting in revised paper.

We appreciate for Editors/Reviewers’ warm work earnestly, and hope that the correction will meet with approval.

Once again, thank you very much for your comments and suggestions.

Yours sincerely,

Xiaohong Lu