Author’s response to reviews

Title: Geranylgeranylacetone attenuates fibrogenic activity and induces apoptosis in cultured human hepatic stellate cells and reduces liver fibrosis in carbon tetrachloride-treated mice

Authors:
Takemasa Senoo (giorno44x@yahoo.co.jp)
Ryu Sasaki (ryu03202501@yahoo.co.jp)
Yuko Akazawa (akazaway@nagasaki-u.ac.jp)
Tatsuki Ichikawa (ichikawa@nagasaki-u.ac.jp)
Satoshi Miuma (miuma1002@gmail.com)
Hisamitsu Miyaaki (hmya0629@yahoo.co.jp)
Naota Taura (ntaura-gi@umin.ac.jp)
Kazuhiko Nakao (kazuhiko@net.nagasaki-u.ac.jp)

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1. Please consider the list of authors as it currently stands with reference to our guidelines regarding qualification for authorship (http://www.biomedcentral.com/submissions/editorial-policies#authorship).

Currently, the contributions of authors NT and KN do not automatically qualify them for authorship. Please provide clarification on their contributions, or remove their names from the list of authors and place them in the “Acknowledgements” section instead.

Acquisition of funding, collection of data, writing of the manuscript or general supervision of the research group, alone, does not usually justify authorship.
Response: In the Authors’ contributions section, we checked the list of authors and revised manuscript as follows. (line 13, page 19)

“NT and KN contributed to study protocol design and interpretation of the data.”

2. Please include the sources and catalogue numbers of all cell lines used in this research in the Methods section of your manuscript.

Please also clarify if ethics approval and informed consent were required to use the cell line donated by Dr. Scott L. Friedman.

Response: As described in the Methods, LX2 cells were gifted from Dr. Scott L Freedman. Therefore, there is no catalogue number about the cells. The sources of the other two cell lines, HepG2 and HHSteC, are indicated in Methods.

3. The Availability of data and materials section refers to the raw data used in your study and presenting figures is not sufficient to state that all data is contained within the manuscript and additional files. Please only use this statement if you have indeed provided all raw data on which your study is based. We strongly encourage all authors to share their raw data, either by providing it in a supplementary file or depositing it in a public repository and providing the details on how to access it in this section. If you do not wish to share your data, please clearly state this in this section along with a justification. We suggest using one of the following statements in this section:

- The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are available in the [NAME] repository, [PERSISTENT WEB LINK TO DATASETS]
• The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

• The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are not publicly available due [REASON WHY DATA ARE NOT PUBLIC] but are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

• The data that support the findings of this study are available from [third party name] but restrictions apply to the availability of these data, which were used under license for the current study, and so are not publicly available. Data are however available from the authors upon reasonable request and with permission of [third party name].

Response: Thank you for this comment. We changed the text as follows.

Availability of data and materials (line 1, page 19) “The datasets used and/or analyzed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.”