Author's response to reviews

Title: NPC1L1 knockout protects against colitis-associated tumorigenesis in mice

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

We would like to submit the enclosed manuscript entitled "NPC1L1 knockout protects against colitis-associated tumorigenesis in mice", which we wish to be considered for publication in BMC Cancer.

Colorectal cancer is strongly associated with lipid metabolism. NPC1L1, a sterol transporter, play a key role in modulating lipid homeostasis in vivo. Its antagonist, ezetimibe, began to be used in clinic to lower cholesterol and this caused the great debate on its role in causing carcinogenesis. We explored the role of NPC1L1 in colorectal tumorigenesis by using NPC1L1 knockout mice. Our findings provide the first evidence that NPC1L1 knockout strongly protects against colitis-associated tumorigenesis in a p53-independent manner. NPC1L1 knockout decreasing plasma lipid, especially cholesterol, to reduce inflammation and decreasing β-catenin, p-c-Jun and p-ERK may be involved in the mechanism.

We hope the manuscript meets the high standard of BMC Cancer and we are deeply appreciative of your response.

Best wishes,

Jianming He

Liqing Yu