Author's response to reviews

Title: Establishment of monoclonal HCC cell lines with organ site-specific tropisms

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Dear Editor in Chief of BMC CANCER,

Enclosed please find a manuscript entitled “Establishment of monoclonal HCC cell lines with organ site-specific tropisms” for possible publication in BMC Cancer.

Organ site-specific metastasis is an ominous feature for most poor-prognostic hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) patients. Cancer cell lines and animal models are indispensable for investigating the molecular mechanisms of organ specific tropism. However, till now, little is known about the drivers in HCC metastatic tropism, and also no effective way has been developed to block the process of tropistic metastasis. Therefore, it is desperately needed to develop several monoclonal HCC cell lines with different organ-site tropisms to identify the underlying mechanisms. In this study, we successfully established several monoclonal HCC cell lines from HCCLM3-RFP together with their xenograft models, and then analyzed their metastatic potentials and tropisms, and finally elucidated the driving forces of HCC tropistic metastases. By our powerful in-vitro and in-vivo platforms, we believed, HCC metastatic tropisms in clinic could be easily mimicked and recapitulated for exploring the bilateral interactions between tumor and its microenvironment, elucidating the drivers of HCC metastatic tropisms, and testing anti-cancer effects of newly developed agent in pre-clinical stage.

The work described has not been submitted elsewhere for publication, in whole or in part, and all authors have approved the manuscript enclosed. Authorization is given to BMC Cancer.

Thank you very much for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely Yours,

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