Author’s response to reviews

Title: Epithelial-mesenchymal transition markers screened in a cell-based model and validated in lung adenocarcinoma

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Author’s response to reviews:

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BMC Cancer

Dear Editor Rice,

On behalf of my co-authors, I am very grateful for the opportunity to revise our manuscript entitled "Epithelial-mesenchymal transition markers screened in a cell-based model and validated in lung adenocarcinoma" (manuscript IDBCAN-D-18-02688R1) in BMC cancer. After several days revision by modifying the manuscript, I am pleased to send you the revised manuscript, which my co-authors and I wish to be considered to be published in BMC Cancer.
All authors have contributed significantly and are in agreement with the content of the revised manuscript.

We are also very appreciative for the valuable and professional comments and suggestions to our manuscript. Based on these comments, we have earnestly revised our manuscript. The point-for-point responses to the comments were provided. You can find these responses in the “Response to Editor Comments” file. After this revision, we hope that the quality of our manuscript merit the standard for publication in BMC Cancer.

I am looking forward to your kind response.

Best regards,

Qi

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Editor Comments:
1) If human cell lines are used, authors are strongly encouraged to include the following information in their manuscript:
   • The source of the cell line, including when and from where it was obtained
   • Whether the cell line has recently been authenticated and by what method
   • Whether the cell line has recently been tested for mycoplasma contamination

Further information is available from the International Cell Line Authentication Committee (ICLAC). We recommend that authors check the NCBI database for misidentification and contamination of human cell lines. Please include the sources of all cell lines and their catalogue numbers.

Response: Thanks for your suggestion! A549 (CRM-CCL-185) was obtained from American Type Culture Collection (Manassas, VA, USA) in 2013. A549 has recently been authenticated by short tandem repeat analysis and tested negative for mycoplasma contamination. WI38 (CCL-75) was obtained from American Type Culture Collection (Manassas, VA, USA) in 2013. WI38 has recently been authenticated by short tandem repeat analysis and tested negative for mycoplasma contamination. We have revised the methods in the manuscript (Lines 107-112, Pages 6-7).

2) Please confirm whether any of the cell lines required ethics approval for their use and include a statement in the Ethics approval and consent to participate section in the Declarations.

Response: Thanks for your comments! The cell lines used in our experiments do not require ethical approval (Lines 466-467, Page 23).

3) Please ensure the data are made publicly available in GEO at the time of publication.

Response: Thanks for your careful inspection! According to the policy of NCBI, the data will be automatically public and available at the time of publication. So when you decide to accept our manuscript, we can also make the data available manually.

4) Please include a statement in the competing interests as to whether any non-financial competing interests are present.
Response: The authors have declared that no non-financial competing interests exist.

We have revised the declarations in the manuscript (Line477, Page 23).

5) In the Funding section of the Declarations please indicate the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript. If no specific funding was received for this study, please clearly indicate this in the Funding section.

Response: Thanks for your suggestion! The funder did not participate in the design of the study and collection, analysis, interpretation of data or in writing the manuscript. We have revised the declarations in the manuscript (Lines 486-487, Page 24).

6) Please use (unique) initials only and not family names in the Authors' contributions section.

Response: We have revised the declarations in the manuscript (Lines 490-492, Page 24).

7) At this stage, please upload your proofread manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethrough or text in different colours. All relevant tables and figures should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files. Should you wish to respond to these revision requests, please include the information in the designated input box only.

Response: Thanks for your suggestion! We have revised our manuscript according to your requirement!