Reply reviewers

Reviewer1：

1. Results, figures 1 - 4 are missing in the Word file.

We put the picture in Word document.

1. Results, section Dp44mT induces SW480 and HT-29 cells apoptosis, lines 3and 5; phrase: “inhibited more apoptotic cells than the 0 uM group” cero is correct?. Phrase: “than in the 0 uM treated group” again; cero is correct?

Because our statement is incorrect, we have revised it according to Reviewer's opinion: original text is “Flow cytometry results showed that dp44MT inhibited more apoptotic cells than the 0 μM group”; The revised sentence is“The results of flow cytometry showed that dp44MT could promote apoptosis more strongly than in 0 μM treated group”.

1. Results, section FAC inhibited Dp44mT-induced SW480 and HT-29 cells apoptosis, line 2; correct citometr for citometry.

The revised sentence is “The salvage effect of FAC on DP44MT induced apoptosis of SW480 and HT-29 cells was detected by flow cytometry”.

4. Discussion, last paragraph; sentence: “In conclusion, in the essay, we explored the anti-tumor effect”; should says: "In conclusion, in the assay, we explored the anti-tumor effect”.

The revised sentence is “In conclusion, we explored the anti-tumor effects of iron chelators Dp44mT on colorectal tumor cells by essays”.

Reviewer2：

1. In western blotting, the item number of antibodies should be included in the manuscript.

The item number of antibodies incliuding P-histones H2A.X, mTOR, pmTOR and GAPDH respectively are SC-517348,SC-517348,SC-293133,SC-47724.

1. How did you decide the concentrations of Dp44mT on SW480 and HT-29 cells?

The reference is “Zhiqiang Chen, Jing Sun, Tao Li, Yanfeng Liu, Shang Gao, Xuting Zhi, Minhua Zheng. Iron chelator-induced up-regulation of Ndrg1 inhibits proliferation and EMT process by targeting Wnt/β-catenin pathway in colon cancer cells.Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications 2018:56,114-121”.

1. Scale bar should be shown in Fig 2.

As the original image could not be found, it was explained in the annotation of Figure 2,“The scale bar is 1:400”.

4. In fig 3, Dp44mT + FAC reduced the Dp44mT-induced cell apoptosis. What about the Dp44mT + FAC and the FAC group?

On the one hand, FAC group had less apoptotic effect than Dp44mT group. On the other hand, FAC itself can also promote cell apoptosis. When FAC+Dp44mT group treated cells, it is unknown which plays a dominant role, while FAC group can play a positive control role compared with AC+Dp44mT group.