Research Progress in microRNA-Based Therapy for Gastric Cancer

This article was published in the following Dove Press journal:
OncoTargets and Therapy

Xu Zhao^{1,*}
Gao-Feng Hu^{2,3,*}
Yan-Fen Shi⁴
Wei Xu³

¹Department of Hepatology, The First Hospital of Jilin University, Changchun 130021, People's Republic of China;

²National Center for Clinical Laboratories, Beijing Hospital, National Center of Gerontology, Institute of Geriatric Medicine, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, Beijing, People's Republic of China; ³Department of Clinical Laboratory, The First Hospital of Jilin University, Changchun 130021, People's Republic of China; ⁴Department of Pathology, China-Japan Friendship Hospital, Beijing 100029, People's Republic of China

*These authors contributed equally to this work

Abstract: Gastric cancer (GC) is one of the leading causes of tumor-related mortality. In addition to surgery and endoscopic resection, systemic therapy remains the main treatment option for GC, especially for advanced-stage disease and for cases not suitable for surgical therapy. Hence, improving the efficacy of systemic therapy is still an urgent problem to overcome. In the past decade, the essential roles of microRNAs (miRNAs) in tumor treatment have been increasingly recognized. In particular, miRNAs were recently shown to reverse the resistance to chemotherapy drugs such as 5-fluorouracil, cisplatin, and doxorubicin. Synthesized nanoparticles loaded with mimics or inhibitors of miRNAs can directly target tumor cells to suppress their growth. Moreover, exosomes may serve as promising safe carriers for mimics or inhibitors of miRNAs to treat GC. Some miRNAs have also been shown to play roles in the mechanism of action of other anti-tumor drugs. Therefore, in this review, we highlight the research progress on microRNA-based therapy in GC and discuss the challenges and prospects associated with this strategy. We believe that microRNA-based therapy has the potential to offer a clinical benefit to GC patients, and this review would contribute to and motivate further research to promote this field toward this ultimate goal.

Keywords: therapeutics, drug resistance, nanoparticles, treatment mechanism

Introduction

Gastric cancer (GC) has an extremely high rate of mortality and is ranked as one of the leading causes of cancer-related death worldwide.^{1,2} Besides adequate surgical resection and endoscopic resection, adjuvant and neoadjuvant therapies are generally used to improve the disease-free survival and overall survival of patients with GC.^{3,4} However, it remains an important challenge to develop more effective systematic treatments for GC, especially for patients with inoperable disease at diagnosis or recurrent disease after resection. The development of resistance to standard chemotherapy drugs such as 5-fluorouracil (5-FU), cisplatin, and doxorubicin has been the main cause of chemotherapy failure. Moreover, first-line targeted therapies such as trastuzumab and ramucirumab are not suitable for the majority of patients with GC.^{5,6} Hence, extensive research effort has focused on solving this current treatment challenge by gaining a better understanding of the underlying pathogenic mechanisms and conducting preclinical studies for ultimate clinical application.

In the last decade, exploration of the roles of miRNAs in carcinogenesis, treatment response, and as potential therapeutic targets has attracted widespread attention, with substantial progress made in better understanding mechanisms.⁷ On the basis of mechanism-related studies, there has been increasing effort made to

Correspondence: Wei Xu
Department of Clinical Laboratory, The First Hospital of Jilin University, Changchun 130021, People's Republic of China
Tel/fax +86-431-88782622
Email xuwei0210@sina.com

further explore the practical applications of these fundamental findings, which have revealed the essential roles of microRNAs in tumor therapy.⁸ For example, with respect to drug resistance, over-expression of miR-939 was shown to enhance 5-FU-induced chemosensitivity by suppressing cellular growth and inducing apoptosis both in vitro and in vivo.⁹ Moreover, caudally injected exosomes loaded with the inhibitor of miR-214 (exo-anti-214) could reverse the chemoresistance to cisplatin in a nude mouse model of GC.¹⁰ In addition, synthetic carriers have been used to deliver the confirmed anti-tumor miRNAs to the precise tumor site so as to directly inhibit GC, such as “PPP”, which was constructed by modifying phenylboronic acid onto the surface of a polyamidoamine dendrimer and poly(ethylene glycol)-poly(ϵ -caprolactone) copolymers (PEG-PCL) nanoparticles coated with trastuzumab.^{11,12} Indeed, these studies have led to a major advance in the clinical application of miRNAs. Moreover, these findings suggested that in addition to their function as biomarkers, miRNAs can also play roles in the treatment of tumors. Nevertheless, despite these many important findings, there has been no study that summarizes these recent advances in microRNA-based therapy for GC.

Therefore, in this review, we mainly focus on the advances in microRNA-based therapies for GC, including chemotherapy, targeted therapy, tumor immunotherapy, and others. In particular, we highlight the key miRNAs reported to affect the actions of commonly used chemotherapy drugs, which will facilitate further research on drug resistance. Moreover, the listed carriers that loaded mimics or inhibitors of miRNAs can emphasize the promising applications of anti-tumor miRNAs in targeted therapy and immunotherapy, which should promote their valuable consideration for clinical practice.

microRNA-Based Chemotherapy Fluorouracil Resistance

According to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network clinical practice guidelines in GC, 5-FU is recommended as the first-line anti-tumor drug. Several miRNAs have been identified to participate in the anti-tumor mechanism of 5-FU by decreasing the expression levels of various target genes. For example, overexpression of miR-939, miR-623, miR-429, miR-204, miR-124 or miR-31 was shown to enhance 5-FU-induced chemosensitivity by compromising tumor cell growth or inducing apoptosis.^{9,13–19} Among the above-mentioned miRNAs, miR-939 and miR-204 were the only two miRNAs

with confirmed ability of reversing drug resistance both in vitro and in vivo, providing more convincing evidence than others.^{9,15} A role of miR-31 in chemosensitivity was reported by two separate research groups and may have more obvious effects.^{17–19} Moreover, reduced miR-6785-5p, miR-193-3p, or miR-147 expression could also increase the chemosensitivity of GC to 5-FU.^{20–22} Interestingly, miR-193-3p and miR-147 both target phosphatase and tensin homolog (*PTEN*) to exert their functions in GC.^{21,22} In addition to miR-193-3p and miR-147, *PTEN* was identified as the target gene of numerous other miRNAs and to play a role in other drug resistance and treatment mechanisms of GC, which will be discussed in further detail below. The full list of miRNAs reported to be involved in the 5-FU resistance in GC to date is provided in Table 1.

Cisplatin Resistance

Cisplatin (DDP) is another first-line chemotherapy drug, and the mechanism of cisplatin resistance has been the most frequently studied according to our review of the literature. As shown in Table 2, the majority of reported miRNAs (34 at the time of writing this review) can reverse DDP resistance, whereas some miRNAs (13 included in this review) could induce DDP resistance. Overexpression of miR-421, miR-320a, miR-192-5p, miR-181a, miR-148a-3p, miR-145 and miR-let-7b, and reduced expression of miR-135b-5p and miR-21-5p could enhance the chemosensitivity to DDP, which was observed in both GC cell lines and in animal tumor models.^{23–30} These miRNAs could become more promising targets for further clinical research after resolving some key technical problems, such as selecting suitable carrier for mimics and inhibitors of miRNAs. Moreover, although miR-218, miR-200c, miR-198, miR34a, and miR-30a were only investigated in cell lines, each of these microRNAs was reported to be involved in DDP resistance in more than one separate study,^{32–40} suggesting that they warrant further attention.

The miRNAs reported to be involved in the mechanism of DDP resistance mainly influence the phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase (PI3K)/AKT, mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK), and nuclear factor kappa B (NF- κ B) signaling pathway.^{29,30,38,39,41–49} However, different miRNAs may have opposite effects on the same pathway. For example, miR-206 targets MAPK to enhance the chemosensitivity to DDP, and miR-135b-5p targets mammalian ste20-like kinase 1 (MST1) through the MAPK signaling pathway to induce drug resistance.^{29,43} Thus, it may be necessary to consider the antagonistic effects of different miRNAs in reversing drug

Table 1 miRNAs Involved in the 5-Fluorouracil (5-FU) Resistance in Gastric Cancer

miRNA	Target(s)*	Expression Level**	Mechanism	Object***	Reference
miR-6785-5p	FOX4	↓	Apoptosis	Cell lines (SGC-7901/5-Fu)	[20]
miR-939	SLC34A2	↑	Enhance cell growth and apoptosis via Raf/EMK/EPK pathway	Cell lines (SGC7901, MNK45 and AGS) and in vivo (SGC7901)	[9]
miR-623	CCND1	↑	Apoptosis	Cell lines (SGC7901 and BGC823)	[13]
miR-429	Bcl-2	↑	Apoptosis	Cell lines (AGS)	[14]
miR-204	TGFBR2	↑	Suppressed TGFBR2-mediated EMT via TGFβ pathway	Cell lines (AGS and SGC7901) and in vivo (AGS)	[15]
miR-193-3p	PTEN	↓	Not investigated	Cell lines (AGS and MKN45)	[21]
miR-147	PTEN	↓	PI3K/AKT signaling pathway/apoptosis	Cell lines (AGS and BGC823)	[22]
miR-124	EZH2	↑	Apoptosis	Cell line (AGS)	[16]
miR-31	ZH2	↑	G ₂ /M cell cycle arrest	Cell lines (AGS)	[17]
	RhoA	↑	Not investigated	Cell line (MKN45)	[18]
	E2F6/SMUG1	↑	Not investigated	Cell line (MKN45)	[19]

Notes: *Targets genes were confirmed by Western blotting, RT-qPCR or dual-luciferase. **Upregulation (↑) or downregulation (↓) of miRNAs enhance chemosensitivity. ***The drug resistance properties of microRNAs were investigated in cell lines or in vivo.

resistance in future studies. In addition, some genes were identified to be targets of more than one miRNA, such as survivin (miR-218, miR-34a), *PTEN* (miR-106a, miR-21-5p), P-glycoprotein (P-gp) (miR-129, miR-30a), and insulin-like growth factor 1 receptor (*IGF1R*) (miR-1271, miR-143).^{30,32,38,46,48,50–53} Thus, it will be worth considering whether there is a synergistic effect between different miRNAs in future research on DDP resistance. Furthermore, some long non-coding RNAs (HOTAIR, MALAT1, CASC2) and circular RNAs (hsa_circ0081143, circAKT3) were found to function as competing endogenous RNAs in the regulation of cisplatin resistance.^{36,39,45,54–56} These findings also provide more possibilities for microRNA-based therapies in GC treatment.

Other Single-Drug Resistance

Some studies have also indicated roles of miRNAs in the resistance of other clinically used chemotherapy drugs, including doxorubicin (DOX; also named adriamycin, ADR), paclitaxel (PTX), oxaliplatin (OXA), vincristine (VCR), taxol, and docetaxel (Table 3). DOX, as an anthracycline-based anti-tumor agent, is widely used for the treatment of various solid tumors such as GC. Increased expression levels of miR-494, miR-422a, miR-140, miR-

103/107, and miR-16-1, and reduced levels of miR-501-5p and miR-21-5p promoted the chemosensitivity to DOX (for more details, refer to Table 3).^{57–64} Among these, miR-103 and miR-107 were the only miRNAs demonstrated to have effects on resistance both in vitro and in vivo.⁶⁰ Another important miRNA that is taking the spotlight in chemotherapy resistance research is miR-21. miR-21-5p targets *PTEN* to induce both DOX and DDP resistance.^{30,48,64} Other studies showed that miR-21 targets P-gp to induce PTX resistance.⁶⁵ Notably, *PTEN* is not only a target gene of miR-21-5p but is also a target of miR-193-3p, miR-147, and miR-106a.^{21,22,46} Through targeting *PTEN*, miRNAs regulate 5-FU, DDP, and DOX resistance in GC.^{21,22,30,46,48,64} Hence, we speculated that miR-21-5p and its target gene *PTEN* may play essential and broad roles in regulating drug resistance in GC.

As shown in Table 3, limited studies have been conducted to investigate the roles of miRNAs in the resistance mechanisms to other chemotherapy drugs. MiR-155-5p, miR-34c-5p, and miR-21 were found to be related to PTX resistance;^{65–67} miR-361-3p, miR-135a, and miR-27a affect OXA resistance;^{68–70} miR-1284 and miR-647 regulated VCR resistance;^{71,72} and miR-200a inhibited taxol resistance, while miR-361-5p suppressed docetaxel

Table 2 miRNAs Involved in the Cisplatin (DDP) Resistance in Gastric Cancer

miRNA	Target(s)*	Expression Level**	Mechanism	Object***	Reference
miR-4295	LRIG1	↓	LRIG1-mediated EGFR/PI3K/Akt signaling pathway	Cell lines (MKN28 and MKN45)	[41]
miR-1271	IGF1R, IRS1, mTOR, BCL2	↑	Apoptosis	Cell lines (SGC7901/DDP)	[52]
miR-646	CDK6	↑	hsa_circ_0081143/miR-646/CDK6	Cell lines (SGC7901 and MGC803)	[54]
miR-524-5p	SOX9	↑	Modulate proliferation and metastasis	Cell lines (SC-M1 and AZ521)	[116]
miR-421	E-cadherin, caspase-3	↑	HIF-1 α /miR-421/E-cadherin and caspase	Cell lines (SGC7901 and AGS) and in vivo (SGC7901)	[23]
miR-375	ERBB2	↑	ERBB2/PI3K/Akt pathway	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[42]
miR-320a	ADAM10	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901 and BGC823) and in vivo (SGC7901)	[24]
miR-218	survivin	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[32]
	Not investigated	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901)	[33]
miR-214	PARP9, XRCC, LIN28B, CD81	↓	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[10]
miR-206	MAPK	↑	MAPK signaling pathway	Cell lines (SGC7901, SGC7901/DDP, BGC823 and BGC823/DDP)	[43]
miR-200c	ZEB2	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901/DDP)	[34]
	VEGFR, MMP9, RhoE	↑	Apoptosis	Cell line (KATOIII)	[35]
miR-198	PIK3R1	↑	circAKT3/miR-198/PIK3R1	Cell lines (BGC823/CDDP, SGC7901/CDDP)	[36]
	FGFR1	↑	Apoptosis	Cell line (SGC7901)	[37]
miR-193a-3p	SRSF2	↓	Mitochondrial apoptosis pathway	Cell lines (CD44+ MKN45 and CD44-MKN45)	[117]
miR-192-5p	ERCC3, ERCC4	↑	NER pathway	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP) and in vivo (SGC7901/DDP)	[25]
miR-181a	ATG5	↑	Autophagy	Cell lines (SGC7901/DDP) and in vivo (SGC7901/DDP)	[26]
miR-149	FoxM1	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901/DDP)	[118]
miR-148a-3p	AKAP1, RAB12	↑	Autophagy	Cell lines (BGC823/DDP and SGC7901/DDP) and in vivo (BGC823 and BGC823/CDDP)	[27]
miR-145	APRIL	↑	NF- κ B signaling pathway	Cell lines (SGC7901 and AGS) and in vivo (AGS)	[31]
miR-143	IGF1R, BCL2	↑	Apoptosis	Cell lines (SGC7901/DDP)	[53]

(Continued)

Table 2 (Continued).

miRNA	Target(s)*	Expression Level**	Mechanism	Object***	Reference
miR-138-5p	ERCC1, ERCC4	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901/DDP)	[119]
miR-136	AEG-1, BCL2	↑	Apoptosis	Cell line (AGS)	[120]
miR-135b-5p	KLF4	↓	NF-κB signaling pathway	Cell lines (SNU1 and MKN45)	[44]
	MST1	↓	MAPK signaling pathway	Cell lines (MKN28 and MKN45) and in vivo (Not Mentioned)	[29]
miR-129	P-gp	↑	Apoptosis	Cell lines (BGC823/DDP and MKN45/DDP)	[50]
miR-126	EGFA, PIK3R2	↑	HOTAIR/miR-126/VEGFA and PIK3R2→PI3K/AKT/MRP1 pathway	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[45]
miR-125b	HER2	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (HGC27 and MGC803)	[121]
miR-106a	PTEN	↓	PTEN/Akt pathway	Cell line (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[46]
miR-99a and miR-491	CAPNS1	↓	Not investigated	Cell lines (BGC823, BGC823/DDP, SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[122]
miR-34a	survivin	↑	PI3K/AKT/surviving signaling pathway	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[38]
	ABCB1, ABCC, ABCG2	↑	HOTAIR/miR-34a→PI3K/Akt and Wnt/β-catenin signaling pathway	Cell lines (BGC823/DDP, and SGC7901/DDP)	[39]
	MET	↑	Proliferation and apoptosis	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[40]
miR-30b	ATG5	↑	MALAT1/miR-30b/ATG5	Cell lines (AGS/DDP and HGC27/DDP)	[55]
miR-30a	Snail, Vimentin	↑	EMT	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[123]
	P-gp	↑	Autophagy	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[51]
miR-26a	NRAS, E2F2	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[124]
miR-25	FOXO3a	↓	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[125]
miR-22	ENO1	↑	miR-22↑/ENO1↓/glycolysis↓→reverse cisplatin-resistance	Cell lines (BGC823/DDP and MGC803)	[126]
miR-21-5p	Caspase-8	↓	NF-λB/miR-21/caspase-8/P-gp	Cell lines(BGC823, BGC823/DDP, SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[47]
	PTEN	↓	PTEN/PI3K/Akt pathway	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[48]
	PTEN	↓	PTEN/PI3K/Akt pathway	Cell lines (MFC and MGC803) and in vivo (MFC)	[30]
miR-20a	CYLD	↓	NF-κB signaling pathway	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[49]
miR-19a	Not investigated	↓	CASC2(lncRNA)/miR-19a	Cell lines (BGC823, BGC823/DDP, SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[56]
miR-7	mTOR	↑	Not investigated	Cell line (SGC7901)	[127]

(Continued)

Table 2 (Continued).

miRNA	Target(s)*	Expression Level**	Mechanism	Object***	Reference
miR-let-7b	AURKB	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901/DDP) and in vivo (SGC7901/DDP)	[28]

Notes: *Targets genes were confirmed by Western blotting, RT-qPCR or dual-luciferase. **Upregulation (↑) or downregulation (↓) of miRNAs enhance chemosensitivity. ***The drug resistance properties of microRNAs were investigated in cell lines or in vivo.

resistance.^{73,74} Among the above-mentioned miRNAs, only miR-135a, miR-1284, and miR-647 were studied both in vitro and in vivo.^{69,71,72} Interestingly, miR-361-3p and miR-361-5p were reported to regulate the resistance of different drugs.^{68,74} This indicates that to best exploit the potential of microRNA-based tumor therapies, we need to pay attention to both the 3p- and 5p-arms of the same miRNA in addition to considering the functions of different miRNAs.

Multidrug Resistance

Although chemotherapy resistance is a challenge for all cancer treatments, it is considered to be a particularly more complex problem in the clinical treatment of GC. In addition to single-drug resistance, multidrug resistance (MDR) may be even more common in clinical practice. Some studies have focused specifically on the roles of miRNAs in MDR (Table 4). Both in vitro and in vivo studies confirmed that miR-508-5p, miR-23b-3p, and miR-590-5p strongly regulate MDR.^{75–79} Shang's group revealed that the restoration of miR-508-5p reversed the 5-FU, DDP, DOX, and VCR resistance of a xenograft in an animal model by targeting ATP binding cassette subfamily B member 1 (*ABCB1*) and zinc ribbon domain-containing 1 (*ZNRD1*).⁷⁵ The same group further identified that the miR-27b-*CCNG1*-P53-miR-508-5p axis regulated the MDR of GC.⁷⁶ They transplanted SGC7901/VCR cells into the right flanks of mice, which were then treated with an agomir for miR-27b or control oligonucleotides before 5-FU or DDP therapy, demonstrating that miR-27b overexpression reversed drug resistance. An et al⁷⁷ found that miR-23b-3p sensitized GC cells to 5-FU, DDP, and VCR by targeting autophagy-related gene 12 (*ATG12*) and high-mobility group box 2 (*HMGB2*). Subsequently, another study showed that the long non-coding RNA MALAT1 regulates autophagy-associated chemoresistance via the miR-23b-3p/ATG12 pathway.⁷⁸ Shen et al⁷⁹ found that miR-590-5p reduces the sensitivity of GC cells to DDP and PTX. To further verify the effect of miR-590-5p, stable miR-590-5p-expressing SGC7901 cells were inoculated into nude mice and the tumor-bearing mice were

treated with DDP, demonstrating that miR-590-5p reduced chemosensitivity. Compared with other reported miRNAs related to MDR (see Table 4 for the full list), there is more sufficient and reliable preclinical evidence for these three above-mentioned miRNAs, demonstrating their suitability for further research toward their potential clinical application.

Figure 1 schematically illustrates the proposed relationship between chemotherapy drugs and relevant miRNAs based on the results of studies of single-drug resistance and MDR. Figure 2 shows the relationship between miRNAs that have an effect on drug resistance and their target genes. It is now clear that some miRNAs can regulate the resistance of different drugs simultaneously. Therefore, this review should be beneficial for the design of future drug resistance studies to select the most suitable miRNAs according to different clinical application purposes. Given the pace of this field along with continuous advances in sequencing technologies, we also believe that more miRNAs that participate in the drug resistance mechanisms will be discovered with further research.

microRNA-Based Targeted Therapy

Thus far, the majority of research focused on microRNA-based targeted therapy has focused on miRNAs that affect the resistance to targeted drugs (trastuzumab and lapatinib) and development of new types of transport carriers (synthetic nanoparticles/compounds and exosomes).

Trastuzumab and Lapatinib

Trastuzumab as a HER2-targeting antibody has been successfully used in combination with chemotherapy for the treatment of HER2-neu overexpressing GC. Trastuzumab resistance is considered to be a difficult problem in clinical application. Increased miR-223, miR-200c, and reduced miR-21 were reported to reverse trastuzumab resistance via different mechanisms.^{80,81} MiR-223 could modulate apoptosis to enhance the sensitivity of a HER2-positive GC cell line to trastuzumab through targeting F-box and WD repeat domain-containing 7 (*FBXW7*),⁸⁰ whereas miR-200c inhibits TGF- β -induced epithelial–mesenchymal transition to restore

Table 3 miRNAs Involved in Other Drug Resistance in Gastric Cancer

miRNA	Drug	Target(s)*	Expression Level**	Mechanism	Object***	Ref.
miR-1284	VCR	EIF4A1	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901/VCR) and in vivo (SGC7901/VCR)	[71]
miR-647	VCR	ANK2	↑	Apoptosis	Cell lines (SGC7901/VCR) and in vivo (SGC7901/VCR)	[72]
miR-501-5p	DOX	BLID	↓	Akt signaling pathway	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/ADR)	[62,63]
miR-494	DOX	PDE4D	↑	Not investigated	Cell line (AGS/DOX)	[57]
miR-422a	DOX	MEF2D	↑	lncR-D63785 /miR-422a/ MEF2D	Cell line (BGC823)	[58]
miR-361-3p	OXA	ABCB1	↑	lncR-BLACAT1 /miR-361/ ABCB1	Cell lines (BGC823/OXA and SGC7901/OXA)	[68]
miR-361-5p	Docetaxel	FOXMI	↑	PI3K/Akt/ mTOR pathway	Cell lines (SGC7901 and MKN28)	[74]
miR-200a	Taxol	β-catenin	↑	Wnt/β-catenin signaling pathway	Cell lines (SGC7901 and BGC823)	[73]
miR-155-5p	PTX	GATA3, TP53INP1	↓	Not investigated	Cell lines (MGC803 and MGC803/PTX)	[66]
miR-140	DOX	SOX4	↑	Not investigated	Cell line (HGC27)	[59]
miR-135a	OXA	E2F1	↓	Sp1/DAPK signaling pathway	Cell lines (SGC7901/OXA and MGC803/OXA) and in vivo(SGC7901/OXA and MGC803/OXA)	[69]
miR-103/107	DOX	Cav-1	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901/ADR) and in vivo (SGC7901/ADR)	[60]
miR-34c-5p	PTX	MAPT	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/VCR)	[67]
miR-27a	OXA	P-gp, LRP, Bcl-2	↑	HIF-α/miR-27a/ P-gp, LRP, Bcl-2	Cell line (OCUM-2MD3/OXA)	[70]
miR-21-5p	DOX	PTEN,TIMP3	↓	Not investigated	Cell line (SGC7901/DOX)	[64]
miR-21	PTX	P-gp	↓	Not investigated	Cell line (SGC7901 and SGC7901/PTX)	[65]
miR-16-1	DOX	FUBP1	↑	Not investigated	Cell line (SGC7901/DOX)	[61]

Notes: *Targets genes were confirmed by Western blotting, RT-qPCR or dual-luciferase. **Upregulation (↑) or downregulation (↓) of miRNAs enhance chemosensitivity.

***The drug resistance properties of microRNAs were investigated in cell lines or in vivo.

Abbreviations: VCR, vincristine; DOX (ADR), doxorubicin (adriamycin); OXA, oxaliplatin; PTX, paclitaxel.

trastuzumab sensitivity through inhibiting zinc finger E-box binding homeobox 1 (*ZEB1*) and *ZEB2*,⁸¹ and miR-21 significantly suppressed trastuzumab-induced apoptosis and decreased the sensitivity of GC cells to trastuzumab through regulating *PTEN* expression.⁸² In addition to the above three miRNAs, Sun et al⁸³ reported a correlation between miR-

125b and trastuzumab resistance according to the clinicopathologic characteristics of patients with GC. Nishida et al⁸⁴ reported that the inhibitory effect of miR-125a-5p on GC proliferation was enhanced in combination with trastuzumab. As an alternative strategy, nanoparticles coated with trastuzumab were used as carriers to transfer miRNAs or

Table 4 miRNAs Involved in Multidrug Resistance (MDR) in Gastric Cancer

miRNA	Drug	Target(s)*	Expression Level**	Mechanism	Object***	Reference
miR-874	DDP, 5-FU, VCR	ATG16 L1	↑	Apoptosis	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[128]
miR-633	DDP, DOX,	FADD	↑	Foxo3a/miR-633/FADD	Cell lines (SGC7901)	[129]
miR-590-5p	DDP, PTX	RECK	↓	AKT/ERK and STAT3 signaling pathway	Cell lines (SGC7901 and BGC823) and in vivo (SGC7901)	[79]
miR-567	5-FU, OXA	PIK3API	↑	miR-567-PIK3API-PI3K/AKT-c-Myc	Cell lines (MGC803 and BGC823)	[130]
miR-508-5p	5-FU, DDP, VCR, DOX	ABCB1, ZNRD1	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901/VCR and SGC7901/ADR) and in vivo (SGC7901/VCR)	[75]
miR-495	5-FU, DDP, DOX, MMC	ERBB2	↑	mTOR signaling pathway	Cell line (SGC7901)	[131]
miR-363	5-FU, DDP, Docetaxel	FBW7	↓	Not investigated	Cell lines (MGC803 and HGC27)	[132]
miR-217	DOX, PTX	Not investigated	↑	HOTAIR/miR-217	Cell line (SGC7901)	[133]
miR-200c	DDP, Cetuximab	RhoE	↑	Not investigated	Cell line (SGC7901/DDP)	[134]
miR-195-5p	5-FU, OXA	ZNF139	↑	Not investigated	Cell line (MKN28)	[135]
miR-185	5-FU, DOX, XOA	Not investigated	↓	ZNF139/miR-185	Cell line (SGC7901 and SGC7901/ADR)	[136]
miR-181b	5-FU, DDP, DOX, VCR, VP-16	BCL2	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (A549/DDP and SGC7901/VCR)	[137]
miR-126	VCR, DOX	EZH2	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901/VCR and SGC7901/ADR)	[138]
miR-107	5-FU, DOX, PTX, OXA	Not investigated	↑	Lin-28/miR-107	Cell lines (MKN45 and MKN48)	[139]
miR-101	DDP, VCR	ANXA2	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901/DDP and SGC7901/VCR)	[140]
miR-96	DDP, DOX	FOXO1	↓	miR-96/FOXO1/p21	Cell lines (SGC7901)	[141]
miR-33b-5p	DDP, Docetaxel	HMG A2	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901 and MGC803)	[142]
miR-30a	DDP, 5-FU	P-gp	↑	Decrease the MDR-related protein P-gp	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/DDP)	[143]
miR-29c	DDP, Docetaxel	CTNND1	↑	Not investigated	Cell lines (MGC803 and HGC27)	[144]

(Continued)

Table 4 (Continued).

miRNA	Drug	Target(s)*	Expression Level**	Mechanism	Object***	Reference
miR-27b	5-FU, DDP, DOX	Not investigated	↑	LncRNA-UCA1 /miR-27b/	Cell lines (SGC7901/ADR)	[145]
	5-FU, DDP, VCR, DOX	CCNG1	↑	miR-27b/CCNG1/ P53/miR-508-5p/ ABCB1, ZNRD1	Cell lines (SGC7901, SGC7901/ADR and SGC7901/VCR)	[75,76]
miR-23b-3p	5-FU, DDP, VCR	ATG12, HMGB2	↑	miR-23b-3p/ATG12/ HMGB2/autophagy	Cell lines (5-FU, DDP, VCR)(SGC7901 and SGC7901/VCR) and in vivo (5-FU, DDP) (SGC7901/VCR)	[77]
		ATG12	↑	Lnc RNA MALAT1/ miR-23b-3p/ autophagy	Cell lines (5-FU, DDP, VCR)(SGC7901 and SGC7901/VCR) and in vivo (DDP) (SGC7901/VCR)	[78]
miR-BART20 -5p	5-FU, Docetaxel	BAD	↓	Not investigated	Cell lines (AGS)	[146]
miR-19a/b	5-FU, DDP	MeCP2	↓	Not investigated	Cell lines (SGC7901)	[147]
miR-17	5-FU, DDP	DEDD	↓	Apoptosis	Cell lines (SGC7901 and AGS)	[148]
miR-15b, miR-16	DDP, DOX, VCR, VP-16	BCL2	↑	Apoptosis	Cell lines (SGC7901 and SGC7901/VCR)	[149]

Notes: *Targets genes were confirmed by Western blotting, RT-qPCR or dual-luciferase. **Upregulation (↑) or downregulation (↓) of miRNAs enhance chemosensitivity. ***The drug resistance properties of microRNAs were investigated in cell lines or in vivo.

Abbreviations: DDP, cisplatin; 5-FU, 5-fluorouracil; VCR, vincristine; DOX (ADR), doxorubicin (adriamycin); PTX, paclitaxel; OXA, oxaliplatin; L-OHP, oxaliplatin; VP-16, etoposide; MMC, mitomycin.

chemotherapy drugs to the target, which will be discussed further in the following section.

Lapatinib, a type of tyrosine kinase inhibitor, is also commonly used in GC targeted treatment. The resistance to lapatinib can be reversed by miR-494.⁸⁵ Like trastuzumab, lapatinib can induce miR-16 upregulation in GC sensitive cells via inhibition of c-Myc and the PI3K/AKT and Erk1/2 pathways.⁸⁶

Synthetic Nanoparticles and Compounds

As mentioned above, some studies have explored the applications of nanoparticles loaded with mimics/inhibitors of miRNAs or some other tumor-targeting compounds. Song's team constructed a tumor-targeted gene carrier, PPP, through modification of phenylboronic acid onto the surface of a polyamidoamine dendrimer.¹¹ The carrier PPP showed favorable miRNAs binding and condensation ability, protected miRNAs against nuclease degradation, and mediated the cellular uptake of miRNAs.¹¹ Jang's team used nanovesicles containing poly (l-lysine-graft-imidazole) (PLI)/miRNA complexes (NVs/miR) to systemically deliver miRNA to the target site.⁸⁷ Incorporation of hydrophilic

PEG molecules on the nanoparticle surface could further prolong the blood circulation. Li's team loaded sorafenib (SRF) and all-trans retinoic acid (ATRA) in PEGylated solid lipid nanoparticles (SLNs) composed of Gelucire, and loaded miRNA onto the surface of the SLNs based on the electrostatic interaction.⁸⁸ Liu's team employed intelligent gelatinases-stimuli nanoparticles to co-deliver miRNA and docetaxel to inhibit cancer stem cells.⁸⁹ Hu's team and Wu's team each introduced PCL-PEG nanoparticles coated with trastuzumab (HER-PEG-PCL NPs) to control the delivery of the inhibitor of miRNA.^{12,90} These studies, respectively, verified the inhibitory function of miR-34a, miR-21, miR-542-3p, and miR-200c on GC in vitro or in vivo. Importantly, these strategies involve the use of synthetic nanoparticles and compounds to attempt to solve the problem of improving microRNAs-targeted transport to tumors so as to promote the clinical application of microRNA-based targeted therapies.

Exosomes

Exosomes are nanosized extracellular membrane-derived vesicles that are secreted by various cells. In 2007, miRNAs were first identified to be transferred in exosomes.⁹¹ In a study

Figure 2 Schematic diagram showing the relationship between target genes and miRNAs related to drug resistance.

ligand cytotoxic, and T lymphocyte antigen-4 (CTLA-4), and augment T-cell activity. The use of immune checkpoint inhibitors has been approved in several tumors, and they are showing remarkable clinical effects. However, only a limited number of GC patients respond to tumor immunotherapy. Few studies have focused on the functions of miRNAs in immunotherapy for GC. Fan et al⁹³ reported that Cbl proto-oncogene B (Cbl-b) as a target gene of miR-940 interacted and ubiquitinated signal transducer and activator of transcription 5a (STAT5a) and down-regulated the expression of STAT5a and anti-programmed death ligand-1 (PD-L1). The miR-940/Cbl-b/STAT5a/PD-L1 axis promoted the proliferation and

migration of gastric cancer cells. Accordingly, similar researches can perhaps provide some new ideas and conjectures for microRNA-based immunotherapies of GC.

microRNA-Based Other Therapies

The upstream regulatory mechanism of miRNAs, such as hypermethylation in the promoter region and transcription factor dysregulation, affects the expression of miRNAs. Some miRNAs play key roles in GC tumorigenesis, proliferation, metastasis, and recurrence. In theory, many genes and miRNAs in these processes could become potential therapeutic targets. However, there are too many possible miRNAs and related mechanisms involved in GC to give a detailed

Table 5 miRNAs Involved in Treatment Mechanisms of Anti-Tumor Drugs

miRNA	Drug	Mechanism	Object*	Reference
miR-4670-5p	Aspirin	Aspirin→miR-4670-5p↓→suppress proliferation	Cell lines (MKN45, NUGC3 and AGS) and in vivo (MKN45)	[99]
miR-940	PD-L1	miR-940↑→Cbl-b↓→ubiquitination regulation of STAT5a→PD-L1↑→promote proliferation and migration of GC	Cell lines (MGC803, AGS, NCI-N87 and MKN74) and in vivo (MGC803)	[93]
miR-494	Cinobufacini	Cinobufacini→miR-494↑→BAG-1↓→inhibit cell proliferation and promote apoptosis	Cell lines (BGC823 and SGC7901)	[97,98]
	TNF-related apoptosis-inducing ligand (TRAIL)	miR-494↑→survivin↓→sensitize GC cells to TRAIL-induced cytotoxicity	Cell lines (BGC823 and MGC803)	[103]
miR-493	Dickkopf-1 (DKK1)	miR-493↑→DKK1↓→promote proliferation, invasion and chemo-resistance	Cell lines (SGC7901, MKN28, AGS and MGC803) and in vivo (MGC803 and SGC7901)	[100]
miR-388-5p	Anticancer bioactive peptide-3 (ACBP-3)	ACBP-3→miR-388-5p↑, BAK↑, BIM↑→inhibit gastric cancer stem cell (GCSC) proliferation and induce apoptosis and lower the required effective dose of DDP or 5-FU	Cell lines (MKN45, MKN74 and GES-1)	[150]
miR-298	Bufalin	Bufalin→miR-298↓→BAX↑→inhibit proliferation and promote apoptosis	Cell lines (MKN45, MGC803, SGC7901 and GES-1)	[151]
miR-203	Berberine (BER)	BER→miR-203↑→Bcl-w→reduce DDP resistance	Cell lines (SGC7901, BGC823, SGC7901/DDP and BGC823/DDP)	[152]
miR-195	Propofol	Propofol→miR-195↑→inactivate JAK/STAT and NF- κ B pathway→suppress proliferation, migration, invasion and promote apoptosis	Cell lines (MKN45)	[153]
miR-181a	Kaempferol	Kaempferol→miR-181a↑→inactivate MAPK/ERK and PI3K pathway→suppress proliferation and promote autophagy, but not apoptosis	Cell lines (SNU216 and GES-1)	[154]
miR-133a	Ursolic acid (UA)	UA→miR-133a↑→Bax/caspase 3/Bcl2↓→inhibit GC growth and metastasis	Cell lines (BGC823)	[155]
miR-124	Sulforaphane (SFN)	SFN→miR-124↑→IL-6R↓, STAT3↓→enhance the anti-cancer function of DDP	Cell lines (MGC803 and BGC823)	[104]
	Paeoniflorin	Paeoniflorin→miR-124↑→inhibit PI3K/Akt and STAT3 signaling→inhibit cell viability and induce apoptosis	Cell lines (MGC803 and GES-1)	[105]
miR-106b	Docosahexaenoic acid (DHA)	DHA+docetaxel→MMP2↓and DHA lower the docetaxel-mediated upregulation of miR-106b	Cell lines (MKN45)	[156]
miR-34a	Luteolin	Luteolin→miR-34a↑→HK1↓→p53/p21 and MAPK/ERK pathway→inhibit GC and induce G1 phase arrest→modulate the susceptibility of GC to luteolin	Cell lines (AGS, BGC823 and SGC7901)	[106]
		Luteolin→miR-34a↑→Bcl-2↓→inhibit proliferation and induce apoptosis	Cell lines (BGC823 and SGC7901)	[107]
	Diallyl disulfide (DADS)	DADS→miR-34a↑→inhibit PI3K/Akt signaling pathway→inhibit invasion and induce apoptosis	Cell lines (SGC7901)	[108]
	Chrysin	Chrysin loaded PLGA-PEG-PLGA rather than free chrysin→miR-34a↑	Cell lines (AGS)	[109]

(Continued)

Table 5 (Continued).

miRNA	Drug	Mechanism	Object*	Reference
miR-30e	3,3'-Diindolylmethane (DIM)	DIM→miR-30e↓→ATG5↑→block autophagy and inhibit the proliferation	Cell lines (BGC823 and SGC7901) and in vivo (BGC823)	[101]
miR-21	Cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitor NS398	NS398→miR-21↓→Bcl2↓, Bax↑, Bak↑, PTEN↑→induce apoptosis and decrease invasiveness	Cell lines (AGS)	[110]
	Celastrol	Celastrol→miR-21↓→inactivate PTEN/PI3K/AKT and nuclear factor κB signaling pathway→inhibit proliferation, migration, invasion and induce apoptosis, G2/M cell cycle arrest.	Cell lines (MKN45)	[111]
	Aspirin and lapatinib	Aspirin and lapatinib→VEGF↓→miR-21↓→PPARα↑→attenuate PI3K/AKT signaling→inhibit proliferation and migration	Cell lines (MKN1, MKN45, MKN74 and IM95)	[112]
miR-18a, miR-21, miR-221	Chrysin	Chrysin loaded PLGA-PEG nanoparticles more effective than free chrysin→miR-18a↓, miR-21↓, miR-221↓	Cell lines (AGS)	[157,158]
miR-17-5p	Shenqifuzheng (SQFZ)	SQFZ→amplify the effects of si-HOTAIR, miR-17-5p inhibitor and overexpression of PTEN on boosting the chemosensitivity of GC	Cell lines (MGC803, SGC7901, BGC83, MKN28 and GES-1)	[159]
miR-16-5p	Melatonin	Melatonin→miR-16-5p↓→Smad3↑→inhibit the growth and induce apoptosis of GC	Cell lines (BSG823 and SGC7901)	[160]
miR-9 and miR-326	Sulforaphane extracted from broccoli sprout (SEBS)	SEBS→aberrant expression of miR-9, miR-326, CDX1, CDX2 →anti-proliferative effects	Cell lines (AGS)	[113]
miR-9 and Let-7	Chrysin	Chrysin-PLGA-PEG nanoparticles are more effective than pure chrysin→miR-9↑, Let-7a↑	Cell lines (AGS)	[114]
miR-7	Canolol	Canolol→miR-7↑→block up of COX-2/PGE signaling pathway→inhibit the gastritis-related tumor initiation and progression	Cell lines (AGS) and in vivo (K19-C2mE transgenic mice model which could develop hyperplastic tumors spontaneously in the glandular stomach)	[102]

Notes: *The drug resistance properties of microRNAs were investigated in cell lines or in vivo.

description of them in just one paper. Some miRNAs, regarded as potential therapeutic targets, have also had been reviewed elsewhere.^{94–96} Our review focused more on discussing miRNAs that are more promising for clinical use. We believe that miRNAs that have an effect on GC treatment (including chemotherapy, targeted therapy, immunotherapy, and others) could also become core targets in microRNA-based therapies. It is reported that some drugs with anti-tumor effects may play roles by altering the expression of miRNAs and their related pathways. For example, cinobufacini, which is widely used in the treatment of advanced cancers, was reported to suppress cell proliferation and induce apoptosis in GC by regulating the miR-494-BAG-1 (BCL2 associated athanogene 1) axis.^{97,98} Table 5 summarizes the 24 microRNAs reported to be

involved in the mechanism of other anti-tumor drugs in GC treatment. Some miRNAs, such as miR-4670-5p, miR-940, miR-493, miR-30e, and miR-7, have been shown to have anti-tumor effects both in vitro and in vivo,^{99–102} and other miRNAs, such as miR-494, miR-124, miR-34a, miR-21, and miR-9, have been investigated in more than one study.^{97–114}

Future Prospects and Challenges

Since Ma et al¹¹⁵ first reported that miRNAs affected the biological behavior of tumors in 2007, more and more functions of miRNAs have been described and more and more miRNAs have been identified in different tumors, including GC. With the continual development of research on miRNAs, scientists are no longer satisfied with

exploration of mechanisms but are now actively trying to realize the goal of clinical application and translation of achievements from the laboratory to clinical practice. Hence, microRNAs-based therapy is expected to become a promising research direction and ultimately benefit patients with GC.

The goal of the present review was not only to summarize the relevant literature and advances on the roles of miRNAs in GC treatment, but to further attempt at answering several existing questions. First, we wondered which aspects of GC treatment will microRNA-based therapies be best suited for. As reviewed herein, miRNAs can function in reversing drug resistance, directly inhibiting tumors, or enhancing the anti-tumor effects of drugs. Here, we have mainly focused on the potential for curbing drug resistance and the enhancing the anti-tumor effects of drugs. In terms of directly inhibiting tumors, we have highlighted only some key representative studies, as this field is extremely rich and therefore a comprehensive review is outside of the overall scope. Second, we have tried to assess which miRNAs are most suitable for therapeutic applications. We believe that the miRNAs verified in animal experiments and in more than one study are more reliable for further investigation. Of course, we also acknowledge that this perspective is limited by the extent and scope of current research. Therefore, further verification and screening are needed in future studies. Third, we want to determine the best method to realize the utilization of these miRNAs. Synthesized oligonucleotides of miRNA mimics or inhibitors have been used in an animal tumor model for several years with good results. However, before clinical application, more safety, targeting, and stability issues of this approach need to be considered. Recently, the application of synthetic nanoparticles/compounds and exosomes provides more promising possibilities; however, these techniques also require the combined efforts of doctors, pharmacists, and scientists of other disciplines.

Overall, we believe that this field is currently at an explosive stage of discovery, and hope that this review will promote further applications of this research to realize the ultimate goal of improving the quality of life and outcome of patients with GC.

Acknowledgment

We are grateful to Dr Pu-Jun Gao who is the doctoral supervisor of Xu Zhao for his guidance in revising this manuscript.

Author Contributions

All authors contributed to data analysis, drafting or revising the article, gave final approval of the version to be published, and agree to be accountable for all aspects of the work.

Funding

This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (81672106).

Disclosure

All authors declare they have no conflicts of interest.

References

1. Bray F, Ferlay J, Soerjomataram I, et al. Global cancer statistics 2018: GLOBOCAN estimates of incidence and mortality worldwide for 36 cancers in 185 countries. *CA Cancer J Clin.* **2018**;68(6):394–424. doi:10.3322/caac.v68.6
2. Chen W, Zheng R, Baade PD, et al. Cancer statistics in China, 2015. *CA Cancer J Clin.* **2016**;66(2):115–132. doi:10.3322/caac.21338
3. Van CE, Sagaert X, Topal B, et al. Gastric cancer. *Lancet.* **2016**;388(60):2654–2664. doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(16)30354-3
4. Oriditura M, Galizia G, Sforza V, et al. Treatment of gastric cancer. *World J Gastroenterol.* **2014**;20(7):1635–1649. doi:10.3748/wjg.v20.i7.1635
5. Murahashi S, Takahari D, Wakatsuki T, et al. A retrospective analysis of ramucirumab monotherapy in previously treated Japanese patients with advanced or metastatic gastric adenocarcinoma. *Int J Clin Oncol.* **2018**;23(1):92–97. doi:10.1007/s10147-017-1192-0
6. Bang YJ, Van CE, Feyereislova A, et al. Trastuzumab in combination with chemotherapy versus chemotherapy alone for treatment of HER2-positive advanced gastric or gastro-oesophageal junction cancer (ToGA): a Phase 3, open-label, randomised controlled trial. *Lancet.* **2010**;376(9742):687–697. doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(10)61121-X
7. Chen Z, Li Z, Soutto M, et al. Integrated analysis of mouse and human gastric neoplasms identifies conserved microRNA networks in gastric carcinogenesis. *Gastroenterology.* **2019**;156(4):1127–1139. doi:10.1053/j.gastro.2018.11.052
8. Miroshnichenko S, Patutina O. Enhanced inhibition of tumorigenesis using combinations of miRNA-targeted therapeutics. *Front Pharmacol.* **2019**;10:488. doi:10.3389/fphar.2019.00488
9. Zhang JX, Xu Y, Gao Y, et al. Decreased expression of miR-939 contributes to chemoresistance and metastasis of gastric cancer via dysregulation of SLC34A2 and Raf/MEK/ERK pathway. *Mol Cancer.* **2017**;16(1):18.
10. Wang X, Zhang H, Bai M, et al. Exosomes serve as nanoparticles to deliver anti-miR-214 to reverse chemoresistance to cisplatin in gastric cancer. *Mol Ther.* **2018**;26(3):774–783. doi:10.1016/j.ymthe.2018.01.001
11. Song Z, Liang X, Wang Y, et al. Phenylboronic acid-functionalized polyamidoamine-mediated miR-34a delivery for the treatment of gastric cancer. *Biomater Sci.* **2019**;7(4):1632–1642. doi:10.1039/C8BM01385C
12. Hu N, Yin JF, Ji Z, et al. Strengthening gastric cancer therapy by trastuzumab-conjugated nanoparticles with simultaneous encapsulation of anti-miR-21 and 5-fluorouridine. *Cell Physiol Biochem.* **2017**;44(6):2158–2173. doi:10.1159/000485955

13. Jiang L, Yang W, Bian W, et al. MicroRNA-623 targets cyclin D1 to inhibit cell proliferation and enhance the chemosensitivity of cells to 5-fluorouracil in gastric cancer. *Oncol Res.* 2018;27(1):19–27. doi:10.3727/096504018X15193469240508
14. Zhu P, Zhang J, Zhu J, et al. MiR-429 induces gastric carcinoma cell apoptosis through Bcl-2. *Cell Physiol Biochem.* 2015;37(4):1572–1580. doi:10.1159/000438524
15. Li LQ, Pan D, Chen Q, et al. Sensitization of gastric cancer cells to 5-FU by microRNA-204 through targeting the TGFBR2-mediated epithelial to mesenchymal transition. *Cell Physiol Biochem.* 2018;47(4):1533–1545. doi:10.1159/000490871
16. Xie L, Zhang Z, Tan Z, et al. MicroRNA-124 inhibits proliferation and induces apoptosis by directly repressing EZH2 in gastric cancer. *Mol Cell Biochem.* 2014;392(1–2):153–159. doi:10.1007/s11010-014-2028-0
17. Sun KK, Shen XJ, Yang D, et al. MicroRNA-31 triggers G2/M cell cycle arrest, enhances the chemosensitivity and inhibits migration and invasion of human gastric cancer cells by downregulating the expression of zeste homolog 2 (ZH2). *Archi Biochem Biophys.* 2019;663:269–275. doi:10.1016/j.abb.2019.01.023
18. Korourian A, Roudi R, Sharifabrizi A, et al. MicroRNA-31 inhibits RhoA-mediated tumor invasion and chemotherapy resistance in MKN-45 gastric adenocarcinoma cells. *Exp Biol Med (Maywood).* 2017;242(18):1842–1847. doi:10.1177/1535370217728460
19. Korourian A, Madjd Z, Roudi R, et al. Induction of miR-31 causes increased sensitivity to 5-FU and decreased migration and cell invasion in gastric adenocarcinoma. *Bratisl Lek Listy.* 2019;120(1):35–39. doi:10.4149/BLL_2019_005
20. Yu C, Chen DQ, Liu HX, et al. Rosmarinic acid reduces the resistance of gastric carcinoma cells to 5-fluorouracil by down-regulating FOXO4-targeting miR-6785-5p. *Biomed Pharmacother.* 2019;109:2327–2334. doi:10.1016/j.biopha.2018.10.061
21. Jian B, Li Z, Xiao D, et al. Downregulation of microRNA-193-3p inhibits tumor proliferation migration and chemoresistance in human gastric cancer by regulating PTEN gene. *Tumour Biol.* 2016;37(7):8941–8949. doi:10.1007/s13277-015-4727-x
22. Shen J, Niu W, Zhang H, et al. Downregulation of microRNA-147 inhibits cell proliferation and increases the chemosensitivity of gastric cancer cells to 5-fluorouracil by directly targeting PTEN. *Oncol Res.* 2018;26(6):901–911. doi:10.3727/096504017X15061902533715
23. Ge X, Liu X, Lin F, et al. MicroRNA-421 regulated by HIF-1 α promotes metastasis, inhibits apoptosis, and induces cisplatin resistance by targeting E-cadherin and caspase-3 in gastric cancer. *Oncotarget.* 2016;7(17):24466–24482. doi:10.18632/oncotarget.8228
24. Ge X, Cui H, Zhou Y, et al. MiR-320a modulates cell growth and chemosensitivity via regulating ADAM10 in gastric cancer. *Mol Med Rep.* 2017;16(6):9664–9670. doi:10.3892/mmr.2017.7819
25. Xie X, Huang N, Zhang Y, et al. MiR-192-5p reverses cisplatin resistance by targeting ERCC3 and ERCC4 in SGC7901/DDP cells. *J Cancer.* 2019;10(4):1039–1051. doi:10.7150/jca.25814
26. Zhao J, Nie Y, Wang H, et al. MiR-181a suppresses autophagy and sensitizes gastric cancer cells to cisplatin. *Gene.* 2016;576(2 Pt 2):828–833. doi:10.1016/j.gene.2015.11.013
27. Li B, Wang W, Li Z, et al. MicroRNA-148a-3p enhances cisplatin cytotoxicity in gastric cancer through mitochondrial fission induction and cyto-protective autophagy suppression. *Cancer Lett.* 2017;410:212–227. doi:10.1016/j.canlet.2017.09.035
28. Han X, Zhang JJ, Han ZQ, et al. Let-7b attenuates cisplatin resistance and tumor growth in gastric cancer by targeting AURKB. *Cancer Gene Ther.* 2018;25(11–12):300–308. doi:10.1038/s41417-018-0048-8
29. Zhou J, Chen Q. Poor expression of microRNA-135b results in the inhibition of cisplatin resistance and proliferation and induces the apoptosis of gastric cancer cells through MST1-mediated MAPK signaling pathway. *FASEB J.* 2019;33(3):3420–3436. doi:10.1096/fj.201800618RRR
30. Zheng P, Chen L, Yuan X, et al. Exosomal transfer of tumor-associated macrophage-derived miR-21 confers cisplatin resistance in gastric cancer cells. *J Exp Clin Cancer Res.* 2017;36(1):53. doi:10.1186/s13046-017-0528-y
31. Zhi X, Tao J, Xiang G, et al. APRIL induces cisplatin resistance in gastric cancer cells via activation of the NF- κ B pathway. *Cell Physiol Biochem.* 2015;35(2):571–585. doi:10.1159/000369720
32. Zhang Z, Kong Y, Yang W, et al. MicroRNA-218 enhances gastric cancer cell cisplatin sensitivity by targeting survivin. *Exp Ther Med.* 2018;16(6):4796–4802. doi:10.3892/etm.2018.6802
33. Zhang XL, Shi HJ, Wang JP, et al. MicroRNA-218 is upregulated in gastric cancer after cytoreductive surgery and hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy and increases chemosensitivity to cisplatin. *World J Gastroenterol.* 2014;20(32):11347–11355. doi:10.3748/wjg.v20.i32.11347
34. Jiang T, Dong P, Li L, et al. MicroRNA-200c regulates cisplatin resistance by targeting ZEB2 in human gastric cancer cells. *Oncol Rep.* 2017;38(1):151–158. doi:10.3892/or.2017.5659
35. Ghasabi M, Majidi J, Mansoori B, et al. The effect of combined miR-200c replacement and cisplatin on apoptosis induction and inhibition of gastric cancer cell line migration. *J Cell Physiol.* 2019. doi:10.1002/jcp.28823
36. Huang X, Li Z, Zhang Q, et al. Circular RNA AKT3 upregulates PIK3R1 to enhance cisplatin resistance in gastric cancer via miR-198 suppression. *Mol Cancer.* 2019;18(1):71. doi:10.1186/s12943-019-0969-3
37. Gu J, Li X, Li H, et al. MicroRNA-198 inhibits proliferation and induces apoptosis by directly suppressing FGFR1 in gastric cancer. *Biosci Rep.* 2019;39:6. doi:10.1042/BSR20181258
38. Cao W, Yang W, Fan R, et al. MiR-34a regulates cisplatin-induced gastric cancer cell death by modulating PI3K/AKT/survivin pathway. *Tumour Biol.* 2014;35(2):1287–1295. doi:10.1007/s13277-013-1171-7
39. Cheng C, Qin Y, Zhi Q, et al. Knockdown of long non-coding RNA HOTAIR inhibits cisplatin resistance of gastric cancer cells through inhibiting the PI3K/Akt and Wnt/ β -catenin signaling pathways by up-regulating miR-34a. *Int J Biol Macromol.* 2018;107(Pt B):2620–2629. doi:10.1016/j.ijbiomac.2017.10.154
40. Zhang Z, Kong Y, Yang W, et al. Upregulation of microRNA-34a enhances the DDP sensitivity of gastric cancer cells by modulating proliferation and apoptosis via targeting MET. *Oncol Rep.* 2016;36(4):2391–2397. doi:10.3892/or.2016.5016
41. Yan R, Li K, Yuan DW, et al. Downregulation of microRNA-4295 enhances cisplatin-induced gastric cancer cell apoptosis through the EGFR/PI3K/Akt signaling pathway by targeting LRIG1. *Int J Oncol.* 2018;53(6):2566–2578. doi:10.3892/ijo.2018.4595
42. Zhou N, Qu Y, Xu C, et al. Upregulation of microRNA-375 increases the cisplatin-sensitivity of human gastric cancer cells by regulating ERBB2. *Exp Ther Med.* 2016;11(2):625–630. doi:10.3892/etm.2015.2920
43. Chen Z, Gao YJ, Hou RZ, et al. MicroRNA-206 facilitates gastric cancer cell apoptosis and suppresses cisplatin resistance by targeting MAPK2 signaling pathway. *Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci.* 2019;23(1):171–180.
44. Shao L, Chen Z, Soutto M, et al. Helicobacter pylori-induced miR-135b-5p promotes cisplatin resistance in gastric cancer. *FASEB J.* 2019;33(1):264–274. doi:10.1096/fj.201701456RR
45. Yan J, Dang Y, Liu S, et al. LncRNA HOTAIR promotes cisplatin resistance in gastric cancer by targeting miR-126 to activate the PI3K/AKT/MRP1 genes. *Tumour Biol.* 2016;37(12):16345–16355. doi:10.1007/s13277-016-5448-5
46. Fang Y, Shen H, Li H, et al. MiR-106a confers cisplatin resistance by regulating PTEN/Akt pathway in gastric cancer cells. *Acta Biochim Biophys Sin (Shanghai).* 2013;45(11):963–972. doi:10.1093/abbs/gmt106

47. Xin L, Yang WF, Zhang HT, et al. The mechanism study of lentiviral vector carrying methioninase enhances the sensitivity of drug-resistant gastric cancer cells to Cisplatin. *Br J Cancer*. 2018;118(9):1189–1199. doi:10.1038/s41416-018-0043-8
48. Yang SM, Huang C, Li XF, et al. MiR-21 confers cisplatin resistance in gastric cancer cells by regulating PTEN. *Toxicology*. 2013;306:162–168. doi:10.1016/j.tox.2013.02.014
49. Zhu M, Zhou X, Du Y, et al. MiR-20a induces cisplatin resistance of a human gastric cancer cell line via targeting CYLD. *Mol Med Rep*. 2016;14(2):1742–1750. doi:10.3892/mmr.2016.5413
50. Lu C, Shan Z, Li C, et al. MiR-129 regulates cisplatin-resistance in human gastric cancer cells by targeting P-gp. *Biomed Pharmacother*. 2017;86:450–456. doi:10.1016/j.biopha.2016.11.139
51. Du X, Liu B, Luan X, et al. MiR-30 decreases multidrug resistance in human gastric cancer cells by modulating cell autophagy. *Exp Ther Med*. 2018;15(1):599–605. doi:10.3892/etm.2017.5354
52. Yang M, Shan X, Zhou X, et al. MiR-1271 regulates cisplatin resistance of human gastric cancer cell lines by targeting IGF1R, IRS1, mTOR, and BCL2. *Anticancer Agents Med Chem*. 2014;14(6):884–891. doi:10.2174/1871520614666140528161318
53. Zhuang M, Shi Q, Zhang X, et al. Involvement of miR-143 in cisplatin resistance of gastric cancer cells via targeting IGF1R and BCL2. *Tumour Biol*. 2015;36(4):2737–2745. doi:10.1007/s13277-014-2898-5
54. Xue M, Li G, Fang X, et al. hsa_circ_0081143 promotes cisplatin resistance in gastric cancer by targeting miR-646/CDK6 pathway. *Cancer Cell Int*. 2019;19:25. doi:10.1186/s12935-019-0737-x
55. Xi Z, Si J, Nan J. LncRNA MALAT1 potentiates autophagy-associated cisplatin resistance by regulating the microRNA-30b/autophagy-related gene 5 axis in gastric cancer. *Int J Oncol*. 2019;54(1):239–248. doi:10.3892/ijo.2018.4609
56. Li Y, Lv S, Ning H, et al. Down-regulation of CASC2 contributes to cisplatin resistance in gastric cancer by sponging miR-19a. *Biomed Pharmacother*. 2018;108:1775–1782.
57. Peng QP, Du DB, Ming Q, et al. MicroRNA 494 increases chemosensitivity to doxorubicin in gastric cancer cells by targeting phosphodiesterases 4D. *Cell Mol Biol (Noisy-Le-Grand)*. 2018;64(15):62–66. doi:10.14715/cmb/2017.64.15.10
58. Zhou Z, Lin Z, He Y, et al. The long noncoding RNA D63785 regulates chemotherapy sensitivity in human gastric cancer by targeting miR-422a. *Mol Ther Nucleic Acids*. 2018;12:405–419. doi:10.1016/j.omtn.2018.05.024
59. Zou J, Xu Y. MicroRNA-140 inhibits cell proliferation in gastric cancer cell line HGC-27 by suppressing SOX4. *Med Sci Monit*. 2016;22:2243–2252. doi:10.12659/MSM.896633
60. Zhang Y, Qu X, Li C, et al. MiR-103/107 modulates multidrug resistance in human gastric carcinoma by downregulating Cav-1. *Tumour Biol*. 2015;36(4):2277–2285. doi:10.1007/s13277-014-2835-7
61. Zhao D, Zhang Y and Song L. MiR-16-1 targeted silences far upstream element binding protein 1 to advance the chemosensitivity to adriamycin in gastric cancer. *Pathol Oncol Res*. 2018;24(3):483–488. doi:10.1007/s12253-017-0263-x
62. Liu X, Lu Y, Xu Y, et al. Exosomal transfer of miR-501 confers doxorubicin resistance and tumorigenesis via targeting of BLID in gastric cancer. *Cancer Lett*. 2019;459:122–134. doi:10.1016/j.canlet.2019.05.035
63. Xu YC, Liu X, Li M, et al. A novel mechanism of doxorubicin resistance and tumorigenesis mediated by MicroRNA-501-5p-Suppressed BLID. *Mol Ther Nucleic Acids*. 2018;12:578–590. doi:10.1016/j.omtn.2018.06.011
64. Chen J, Zhou C, Li J, et al. MiR-21-5p confers doxorubicin resistance in gastric cancer cells by targeting PTEN and TIMP3. *Int J Mol Med*. 2018;41(4):1855–1866. doi:10.3892/ijmm.2018.3405
65. Jin B, Liu Y, Wang H. Antagonism of miRNA-21 sensitizes human gastric cancer cells to paclitaxel. *Cell Biochem Biophys*. 2015;72(1):275–282. doi:10.1007/s12013-014-0450-2
66. Wang M, Qiu R, Yu S, et al. Paclitaxel-resistant gastric cancer MGC-803 cells promote epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition and chemoresistance in paclitaxel-sensitive cells via exosomal delivery of miR-155-5p. *Int J Oncol*. 2019;54(1):326–338. doi:10.3892/ijo.2018.4601
67. Wu H, Huang M, Lu M, et al. Regulation of microtubule-associated protein tau (MAPT) by miR-34c-5p determines the chemosensitivity of gastric cancer to paclitaxel. *Cancer Chemother Pharmacol*. 2013;71(5):1159–1171. doi:10.1007/s00280-013-2108-y
68. Wu X, Zheng Y, Han B, et al. Long noncoding RNA BLACAT1 modulates ABCB1 to promote oxaliplatin resistance of gastric cancer via sponging miR-361. *Biomed Pharmacother*. 2018;99:832–838. doi:10.1016/j.biopha.2018.01.130
69. Yan LH, Chen ZN, Li L, et al. MiR-135a promotes gastric cancer progression and resistance to oxaliplatin. *Oncotarget*. 2016;7(43):70699–70714. doi:10.18632/oncotarget.12208
70. Zhao Q, Li Y, Tan BB, et al. HIF-1 α induces multidrug resistance in gastric cancer cells by inducing miR-27a. *PLoS One*. 2015;10(8):e0132746. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0132746
71. Cao W, Wei W, Zhan Z, et al. MiR-1284 modulates multidrug resistance of gastric cancer cells by targeting EIF4A1. *Oncol Rep*. 2016;35(5):2583–2591. doi:10.3892/or.2016.4643
72. Cao W, Wei W, Zhan Z, et al. Regulation of drug resistance and metastasis of gastric cancer cells via the microRNA647-ANK2 axis. *Int J Mol Med*. 2018;41(4):1958–1966. doi:10.3892/ijmm.2018.3381
73. Liu X, Du P, Han L, et al. Effects of miR-200a and FH535 combined with taxol on proliferation and invasion of gastric cancer. *Pathol Res Pract*. 2018;214(3):442–449. doi:10.1016/j.prp.2017.12.004
74. Tian L, Zhao Z, Xie L, et al. MiR-361-5p suppresses chemoresistance of gastric cancer cells by targeting FOXM1 via the PI3K/Akt/mTOR pathway. *Oncotarget*. 2018;9(4):4886–4896. doi:10.18632/oncotarget.23513
75. Shang Y, Zhang Z, Liu Z, et al. MiR-508-5p regulates multidrug resistance of gastric cancer by targeting ABCB1 and ZNRD1. *Oncogene*. 2014;33(25):3267–3276. doi:10.1038/nc.2013.297
76. Shang Y, Feng B, Zhou L, et al. The miR27b-CCNG1-P53-miR-508-5p axis regulates multidrug resistance of gastric cancer. *Oncotarget*. 2016;7(1):538–549. doi:10.18632/oncotarget.v7i1
77. An Y, Zhang Z, Shang Y, et al. MiR-23b-3p regulates the chemoresistance of gastric cancer cells by targeting ATG12 and HMGB2. *Cell Death Dis*. 2015;6:e1766. doi:10.1038/cddis.2015.123
78. YiRen H, YingCong Y, Sunwu Y, et al. Long noncoding RNA MALAT1 regulates autophagy associated chemoresistance via miR-23b-3p sequestration in gastric cancer. *Mol Cancer*. 2017;16(1):174. doi:10.1186/s12943-017-0743-3
79. Shen B, Yu S, Zhang Y, et al. MiR-590-5p regulates gastric cancer cell growth and chemosensitivity through RECK and the AKT/ERK pathway. *Onco Targets Ther*. 2016;9:6009–6019. doi:10.2147/OTT
80. Eto K, Iwatsuki M, Watanabe M, et al. The sensitivity of gastric cancer to trastuzumab is regulated by the miR-223/FBXW7 pathway. *Int J Cancer*. 2015;136(7):1537–1545. doi:10.1002/ijc.v136.7
81. Zhou X, Men X, Zhao R, et al. MiR-200c inhibits TGF- β -induced-EMT to restore trastuzumab sensitivity by targeting ZEB1 and ZEB2 in gastric cancer. *Cancer Gene Ther*. 2018;25(3–4):68–76. doi:10.1038/s41417-017-0005-y
82. Eto K, Iwatsuki M, Watanabe M, et al. The microRNA-21/PTEN pathway regulates the sensitivity of HER2-positive gastric cancer cells to trastuzumab. *Ann Surg Oncol*. 2014;21(1):343–350. doi:10.1245/s10434-013-3325-7
83. Sui M, Jiao A, Zhai H, et al. Upregulation of miR-125b is associated with poor prognosis and trastuzumab resistance in HER2-positive gastric cancer. *Exp Ther Med*. 2017;14(1):657–663. doi:10.3892/etm.2017.4548

84. Nishida N, Mimori K, Fabbri M, et al. MicroRNA-125a-5p is an independent prognostic factor in gastric cancer and inhibits the proliferation of human gastric cancer cells in combination with trastuzumab. *Clin Cancer Res.* 2011;17(9):2725–2733. doi:10.1158/1078-0432.CCR-10-2132
85. Yu Y, Yu X, Liu H, et al. MiR-494 inhibits cancer-initiating cell phenotypes and reverses resistance to lapatinib by downregulating FGFR2 in HER2-positive gastric cancer. *Int J Mol Med.* 2018;42(2):998–1007. doi:10.3892/ijmm.2018.3680
86. Venturutti L, Cordo RR, Rivas MA, et al. MiR-16 mediates trastuzumab and lapatinib response in ErbB-2-positive breast and gastric cancer via its novel targets CCNJ and FUBP1. *Oncogene.* 2016;35(48):6189–6202. doi:10.1038/onc.2016.151
87. Jang E, Kim E, Son HY, et al. Nanovesicle-mediated systemic delivery of microRNA-34a for CD44 overexpressing gastric cancer stem cell therapy. *Biomaterials.* 2016;105:12–24. doi:10.1016/j.biomaterials.2016.07.036
88. Li T, Zhang Y, Meng YP, et al. MiR-542-3p appended sorafenib/all-trans retinoic acid (ATRA)-loaded lipid nanoparticles to enhance the anticancer efficacy in gastric cancers. *Pharm Res.* 2017;34(12):2710–2719. doi:10.1007/s11095-017-2202-7
89. Liu Q, Li RT, Qian HQ, et al. Targeted delivery of miR-200c/DOC to inhibit cancer stem cells and cancer cells by the gelatinases-stimuli nanoparticles. *Biomaterials.* 2013;34(29):7191–7203. doi:10.1016/j.biomaterials.2013.06.004
90. Wu FL, Zhang J, Li W, et al. Enhanced antiproliferative activity of antibody-functionalized polymeric nanoparticles for targeted delivery of anti-miR-21 to HER2 positive gastric cancer. *Oncotarget.* 2017;8(40):67189–67202. doi:10.18632/oncotarget.18066
91. Valadi H, Ekstrom K, Bossios A, et al. Exosome-mediated transfer of mRNAs and microRNAs is a novel mechanism of genetic exchange between cells. *Nat Cell Biol.* 2007;9(6):654–659. doi:10.1038/ncb1596
92. Batrakova EV, Kim MS. Using exosomes, naturally-equipped nanocarriers, for drug delivery. *J Control Release.* 2015;219:396–405. doi:10.1016/j.jconrel.2015.07.030
93. Fan Y, Che X, Hou K, et al. MiR-940 promotes the proliferation and migration of gastric cancer cells through up-regulation of programmed death ligand-1 expression. *Exp Cell Res.* 2018;373(1–2):180–187. doi:10.1016/j.yexcr.2018.10.011
94. Polakovicova I, Jerez S, Wichmann IA, et al. Role of microRNAs and exosomes in helicobacter pylori and epstein-barr virus associated gastric cancers. *Front Microbiol.* 2018;9:636. doi:10.3389/fmicb.2018.00636
95. Matsuzaki J, Suzuki H. Role of MicroRNAs-221/222 in digestive systems. *J Clin Med.* 2015;4(8):1566–1577. doi:10.3390/jcm4081566
96. Xie M, Dart DA, Owen S, et al. Insights into roles of the miR-1, -133 and -206 family in gastric cancer (Review). *Oncol Rep.* 2016;36(3):1191–1198. doi:10.3892/or.2016.4908
97. Shen Z, Li Y, Zhao C, et al. MiR-494-BAG-1 axis is involved in cinobufacini-induced cell proliferation and apoptosis in gastric cancer. *Mol Med Rep.* 2018;17(5):7435–7441. doi:10.3892/mmr.2018.8788
98. Zhou RP, Chen G, Shen ZL, et al. Cinobufacin suppresses cell proliferation via miR-494 in BGC-823 gastric cancer cells. *Asian Pac J Cancer Prev.* 2014;15(3):1241–1245. doi:10.7314/APJCP.2014.15.3.1241
99. Mikami J, Kurokawa Y, Takahashi T, et al. Antitumor effect of antiplatelet agents in gastric cancer cells: an in vivo and in vitro study. *Gastric Cancer.* 2016;19(3):817–826. doi:10.1007/s10120-015-0556-2
100. Jia X, Li N, Peng C, et al. MiR-493 mediated DKK1 down-regulation confers proliferation, invasion and chemo-resistance in gastric cancer cells. *Oncotarget.* 2016;7(6):7044–7054. doi:10.18632/oncotarget.v7i6
101. Ye Y, Fang Y, Xu W, et al. 3,3'-Diindolylmethane induces anti-human gastric cancer cells by the miR-30e-ATG5 modulating autophagy. *Biochem Pharmacol.* 2016;115:77–84. doi:10.1016/j.bcp.2016.06.018
102. Cao D, Jiang J, Tsukamoto T, et al. Canolol inhibits gastric tumors initiation and progression through COX-2/PGE2 pathway in K19-C2mE transgenic mice. *PLoS One.* 2015;10(3):e0120938. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0120938
103. Xu S, Li D, Li T, et al. MiR-494 sensitizes gastric cancer cells to TRAIL treatment through downregulation of survivin. *Cell Physiol Biochem.* 2018;51(5):2212–2223. doi:10.1159/000495867
104. Wang X, Li Y, Dai Y, et al. Sulforaphane improves chemotherapy efficacy by targeting cancer stem cell-like properties via the miR-124/IL-6R/STAT3 axis. *Sci Rep.* 2016;6:36796. doi:10.1038/srep36796
105. Zheng YB, Xiao GC, Tong SL, et al. Paconiflorin inhibits human gastric carcinoma cell proliferation through up-regulation of microRNA-124 and suppression of PI3K/Akt and STAT3 signaling. *World J Gastroenterol.* 2015;21(23):7197–7207. doi:10.3748/wjg.v21.i23.7197
106. Zhou Y, Ding BZ, Lin YP, et al. MiR-34a, as a suppressor, enhance the susceptibility of gastric cancer cell to luteolin by directly targeting HK1. *Gene.* 2018;644:56–65. doi:10.1016/j.gene.2017.10.046
107. Wu H, Huang M, Liu Y, et al. Luteolin Induces apoptosis by up-regulating miR-34a in human gastric cancer cells. *Technol Cancer Res Treat.* 2015;14(6):747–755. doi:10.7785/tcrt.2012.500434
108. Wang G, Liu G, Ye Y, et al. Upregulation of miR-34a by diallyl disulfide suppresses invasion and induces apoptosis in SGC-7901 cells through inhibition of the PI3K/Akt signaling pathway. *Oncol Lett.* 2016;11(4):2661–2667. doi:10.3892/ol.2016.4266
109. Mohammadian F, Abhari A, Dariushnejad H, et al. Upregulation of mir-34a in AGS gastric cancer cells by a PLGA-PEG-PLGA chrysin nano formulation. *Asian Pac J Cancer Prev.* 2015;16(18):8259–8263. doi:10.7314/APJCP.2015.16.18.8259
110. Li H, Cheng J, Mao Y, et al. MiR-21 inhibits the effects of cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitor NS398 on apoptosis and invasion in gastric cancer cells. *Oncotargets Ther.* 2015;8:3245–3253. doi:10.2147/OTT.S90012
111. Yao SS, Han L, Tian ZB, et al. Celastrol inhibits growth and metastasis of human gastric cancer cell MKN45 by down-regulating microRNA-21. *Phytother Res.* 2019;33(6):1706–1716. doi:10.1002/ptr.6359
112. Zhang W, Tan Y, Ma H. Combined aspirin and apatinib treatment suppresses gastric cancer cell proliferation. *Oncol Lett.* 2017;14(5):5409–5417. doi:10.3892/ol.2017.6858
113. Kiani S, Akhavan-Niaki H, Fattahi S, et al. Purified sulforaphane from broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* var. *italica*) leads to alterations of CDX1 and CDX2 expression and changes in miR-9 and miR-326 levels in human gastric cancer cells. *Gene.* 2018;678:115–123. doi:10.1016/j.gene.2018.08.026
114. Mohammadian F, Pilehvar SY, Zarghami F, et al. Upregulation of miR-9 and Let-7a by nanoencapsulated chrysin in gastric cancer cells. *Artif Cells Nanomed Biotechnol.* 2017;45(6):1–6. doi:10.1080/21691401.2017.1391824
115. Ma L, Teruya FJ and Weinberg RA. Tumour invasion and metastasis initiated by microRNA-10b in breast cancer. *Nature.* 2007;449(7163):682–688. doi:10.1038/nature06174
116. Wang J, Xue X, Hong H, et al. Upregulation of microRNA-524-5p enhances the cisplatin sensitivity of gastric cancer cells by modulating proliferation and metastasis via targeting SOX9. *Oncotarget.* 2017;8(1):574–582. doi:10.18632/oncotarget.13479
117. Lee SD, Yu D, Lee DY, et al. Upregulated microRNA-193a-3p is responsible for cisplatin resistance in CD44(+) gastric cancer cells. *Cancer Sci.* 2019;110(2):662–673. doi:10.1111/cas.13894
118. Li X, Liang J, Liu YX, et al. MiR-149 reverses cisplatin resistance of gastric cancer SGC7901/DDP cells by targeting FoxM1. *Pharmazie.* 2016;71(11):640–643. doi:10.1691/ph.2016.6696
119. Ning J, Jiao Y, Xie X, et al. MiR-138-5p modulates the expression of excision repair cross-complementing proteins ERCC1 and ERCC4, and regulates the sensitivity of gastric cancer cells to cisplatin. *Oncol Rep.* 2019;41(2):1131–1139. doi:10.3892/or.2018.6907

120. Yu L, Zhou GQ, Li DC. MiR-136 triggers apoptosis in human gastric cancer cells by targeting AEG-1 and BCL2. *Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci.* 2018;22(21):7251–7256. doi:10.26355/eurrev_201811_16259
121. Zhang X, Yao J, Guo K, et al. The functional mechanism of miR-125b in gastric cancer and its effect on the chemosensitivity of cisplatin. *Oncotarget.* 2018;9(2):2105–2119. doi:10.18632/oncotarget.23249
122. Zhang Y, Xu W, Ni P, et al. MiR-99a and miR-491 regulate cisplatin resistance in human gastric cancer cells by targeting CAPNS1. *Int J Biol Sci.* 2016;12(12):1437–1447. doi:10.7150/ijbs.16529
123. Wang LL, Zhang XH, Zhang X, et al. MiR-30a increases cisplatin sensitivity of gastric cancer cells through suppressing epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition (EMT). *Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci.* 2016;20(9):1733–1739.
124. Wen L, Cheng F, Zhou Y, et al. MiR-26a enhances the sensitivity of gastric cancer cells to cisplatin by targeting NRAS and E2F2. *Saudi J Gastroenterol.* 2015;21(5):313–319. doi:10.4103/1319-3767.166206
125. He J, Qi H, Chen F, et al. MicroRNA-25 contributes to cisplatin resistance in gastric cancer cells by inhibiting forkhead box O3a. *Oncol Lett.* 2017;14(5):6097–6102. doi:10.3892/ol.2017.6982
126. Qian X, Xu W, Xu J, et al. Enolase 1 stimulates glycolysis to promote chemoresistance in gastric cancer. *Oncotarget.* 2017;8(29):47691–47708. doi:10.18632/oncotarget.v8i29
127. Xu N, Lian YJ, Dai X, et al. MiR-7 increases cisplatin sensitivity of gastric cancer cells through suppressing mTOR. *Technol Cancer Res Treat.* 2017;16(6):1022–1030.
128. Huang H, Tang J, Zhang L, et al. MiR-874 regulates multiple-drug resistance in gastric cancer by targeting ATG16L1. *Int J Oncol.* 2018;53(6):2769–2779. doi:10.3892/ijo.2018.4593
129. Pang X, Zhou Z, Yu Z, et al. Foxo3a-dependent miR-633 regulates chemotherapeutic sensitivity in gastric cancer by targeting Fas-associated death domain. *RNA Biol.* 2019;16(2):233–248. doi:10.1080/15476286.2019.1565665
130. Zhang F, Li K, Yao X, et al. A miR-567-PIK3AP1-PI3K/AKT-c-Myc feedback loop regulates tumour growth and chemoresistance in gastric cancer. *EBioMedicine.* 2019;44:311–321. doi:10.1016/j.ebiom.2019.05.003
131. Li N, Han M, Zhou N, et al. MicroRNA-495 confers increased sensitivity to chemotherapeutic agents in gastric cancer via the Mammalian Target of Rapamycin (mTOR) signaling pathway by interacting with human Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor 2 (ERBB2). *Med Sci Monit.* 2018;24:5960–5972. doi:10.12659/MSM.909458
132. Zhang PF, Sheng LL, Wang G, et al. MiR-363 promotes proliferation and chemo-resistance of human gastric cancer via targeting of FBW7 ubiquitin ligase expression. *Oncotarget.* 2016;7(23):35284–35292. doi:10.18632/oncotarget.9169
133. Wang H, Qin R, Guan A, et al. HOTAIR enhanced paclitaxel and doxorubicin resistance in gastric cancer cells partly through inhibiting miR-217 expression. *J Cell Biochem.* 2018;119(9):7226–7234. doi:10.1002/jcb.v119.9
134. Chang L, Guo F, Wang Y, et al. MicroRNA-200c regulates the sensitivity of chemotherapy of gastric cancer SGC7901/DDP cells by directly targeting RhoE. *Pathol Oncol Res.* 2014;20(1):93–98. doi:10.1007/s12253-013-9664-7
135. Nie H, Mu J, Wang J, et al. MiR-195-5p regulates multidrug resistance of gastric cancer cells via targeting ZNF139. *Oncol Rep.* 2018;40(3):1370–1378. doi:10.3892/or.2018.6524
136. Tan B, Li Y, Zhao Q, et al. ZNF139 increases multidrug resistance in gastric cancer cells by inhibiting miR-185. *Biosci Rep.* 2018;38:5. doi:10.1042/BSR20181023
137. Zhu W, Shan X, Wang T, et al. MiR-181b modulates multidrug resistance by targeting BCL2 in human cancer cell lines. *Int J Cancer.* 2010;127(11):2520–2529. doi:10.1002/ijc.25260
138. Wang P, Li Z, Liu H, et al. MicroRNA-126 increases chemosensitivity in drug-resistant gastric cancer cells by targeting EZH2. *Biochem Biophys Res Commun.* 2016;479(1):91–96. doi:10.1016/j.bbrc.2016.09.040
139. Teng R, Hu Y, Zhou J, et al. Overexpression of Lin28 decreases the chemosensitivity of gastric cancer cells to oxaliplatin, paclitaxel, doxorubicin, and fluorouracil in part via microRNA-107. *PLoS One.* 2015;10(12):e0143716. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0143716
140. Bao J, Xu Y, Wang Q, et al. MiR-101 alleviates chemoresistance of gastric cancer cells by targeting ANXA2. *Biomed Pharmacother.* 2017;92:1030–1037. doi:10.1016/j.biopha.2017.06.011
141. Lang C, Xu M, Zhao Z, et al. MicroRNA-96 expression induced by low-dose cisplatin or doxorubicin regulates chemosensitivity, cell death and proliferation in gastric cancer SGC7901 cells by targeting FOXO1. *Oncol Lett.* 2018;16(3):4020–4026. doi:10.3892/ol.2018.9122
142. Yang X, Zhao Q, Yin H, et al. MiR-33b-5p sensitizes gastric cancer cells to chemotherapy drugs via inhibiting HMGA2 expression. *J Drug Target.* 2017;25(7):653–660. doi:10.1080/1061186X.2017.1323220
143. Li C, Zou J, Zheng G, et al. MiR-30a decreases multidrug resistance (MDR) of gastric cancer cells. *Med Sci Monit.* 2016;22:4509–4515. doi:10.12659/MSM.898415
144. Wang Y, Liu C, Luo M, et al. Chemotherapy-induced miRNA-29c/catenin- δ signaling suppresses metastasis in gastric cancer. *Cancer Res.* 2015;75(7):1332–1344. doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-14-0787
145. Fang Q, Chen X, Zhi X. Long non-coding RNA (lncRNA) urothelial carcinoma associated 1 (UCA1) increases multi-drug resistance of gastric cancer via downregulating miR-27b. *Med Sci Monit.* 2016;22:3506–3513. doi:10.12659/MSM.900688
146. Kim H, Choi H, Lee SK. Epstein-Barr virus miR-BART20-5p regulates cell proliferation and apoptosis by targeting BAD. *Cancer Lett.* 2015;356(2 Pt B):733–742. doi:10.1016/j.canlet.2014.10.023
147. Zhu F, Wu Q, Ni Z, et al. MiR-19a/b and MeCP2 repress reciprocally to regulate multidrug resistance in gastric cancer cells. *Int J Mol Med.* 2018;42(1):228–236. doi:10.3892/ijmm.2018.3581
148. Wu DM, Hong XW, Wang LL, et al. MicroRNA-17 inhibition overcomes chemoresistance and suppresses epithelial-mesenchymal transition through a DEDD-dependent mechanism in gastric cancer. *Int J Biochem Cell Biol.* 2018;102:59–70. doi:10.1016/j.biocel.2018.06.007
149. Xia L, Zhang D, Du R, et al. MiR-15b and miR-16 modulate multidrug resistance by targeting BCL2 in human gastric cancer cells. *Int J Cancer.* 2008;123(2):372–379. doi:10.1002/ijc.23501
150. Xing Z, Yu L, Li X, et al. Anticancer bioactive peptide-3 inhibits human gastric cancer growth by targeting miR-338-5p. *Cell Biosci.* 2016;6:53. doi:10.1186/s13578-016-0112-8
151. Zhao H, Zhao D, Tan G, et al. Bufalin promotes apoptosis of gastric cancer by down-regulation of miR-298 targeting bax. *Int J Clin Exp Med.* 2015;8(3):3420–3428.
152. You HY, Xie XM, Zhang WJ, et al. Berberine modulates cisplatin sensitivity of human gastric cancer cells by upregulation of miR-203. *In Vitro Cell Dev Biol Anim.* 2016;52(8):857–863. doi:10.1007/s11626-016-0044-y
153. Zhang W, Wang Y, Zhu Z, et al. Propofol inhibits proliferation, migration and invasion of gastric cancer cells by up-regulating microRNA-195. *Int J Biol Macromol.* 2018;120(Pt A):975–984. doi:10.1016/j.ijbiomac.2018.08.173
154. Zhang F, Ma C. Kaempferol suppresses human gastric cancer SNU-216 cell proliferation, promotes cell autophagy, but has no influence on cell apoptosis. *Braz J Med Biol Res.* 2019;52(2):e7843. doi:10.1590/1414-431x20187843
155. Xiang F, Pan C, Kong Q, et al. Ursolic acid inhibits the proliferation of gastric cancer cells by targeting miR-133a. *Oncol Res.* 2014;22(5–6):267–273. doi:10.3727/096504015X14410238486685
156. Shekari N, Javadian M, Ghasemi M, et al. Synergistic beneficial effect of docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) and docetaxel on the expression level of matrix metalloproteinase-2 (MMP-2) and microRNA-106b in gastric cancer. *J Gastrointest Cancer.* 2019. doi:10.1007/s12029-019-00205-0

157. Mohammadian F, Pilehvar SY, Mofarrah M, et al. Down regulation of miR-18a, miR-21 and miR-221 genes in gastric cancer cell line by chrysin-loaded PLGA-PEG nanoparticles. *Artif Cells Nanomed Biotechnol.* 2016;44(8):1972–1978. doi:10.3109/21691401.2015.1129615
158. Mohammadian F, Pilehvar SY, Alipour S, et al. Chrysin Alters microRNAs expression levels in gastric cancer cells: possible molecular mechanism. *Drug Res (Stuttg).* 2017;67(9):509–514. doi:10.1055/s-0042-119647
159. Jia J, Zhan D, Li J, et al. The contrary functions of lncRNA HOTAIR/miR-17-5p/PTEN axis and Shenqifuzheng injection on chemosensitivity of gastric cancer cells. *J Cell Mol Med.* 2019;23(1):656–669. doi:10.1111/jcmm.13970
160. Zhu C, Huang Q, Zhu H. Melatonin inhibits the proliferation of gastric cancer cells through regulating the miR-16-5p-Smad3 pathway. *DNA Cell Biol.* 2018;37(3):244–252. doi:10.1089/dna.2017.4040

OncoTargets and Therapy

Dovepress

Publish your work in this journal

OncoTargets and Therapy is an international, peer-reviewed, open access journal focusing on the pathological basis of all cancers, potential targets for therapy and treatment protocols employed to improve the management of cancer patients. The journal also focuses on the impact of management programs and new therapeutic

agents and protocols on patient perspectives such as quality of life, adherence and satisfaction. The manuscript management system is completely online and includes a very quick and fair peer-review system, which is all easy to use. Visit <http://www.dovepress.com/testimonials.php> to read real quotes from published authors.

Submit your manuscript here: <https://www.dovepress.com/oncotargets-and-therapy-journal>