

ARRIVE Essential 10 Checklist (Updated According to Manuscript Content)

Manuscript: Integrated Bioinformatic and Experimental Analyses Identify CNTN6 as a Tumor-Promoting Factor and Prognostic Biomarker in Hepatocellular Carcinoma (FBL55597)

Item	Section/line number, or reason for not reporting
1. Study design	Methods 2.17 Animal Experiments. Six-week-old male BALB/c nude mice were divided into shNC and shCNTN6 groups (n=5/group). Experimental unit: individual mouse.
2. Sample size	Methods 2.17. Exact number of animals reported (n=5 per group). No a priori sample size calculation was reported.
3. Inclusion and exclusion criteria	No predefined inclusion/exclusion criteria for animals were reported. No excluded animals were reported in the animal experiment.
4. Randomisation	Methods 2.17. Animals were randomly divided into groups. The method used to generate the randomization sequence was not reported.
5. Blinding	Blinding procedures for animal allocation, experimental procedures, outcome assessment, and data analysis were not clearly reported.
6. Outcome measures	Methods 2.17 and Results 3.8. Outcomes included xenograft tumor growth, tumor volume, tumor weight, histological analysis, IHC, and CD86/CD206 immunofluorescence. Primary outcome measure was not specified.
7. Statistical methods	Methods 2.19. Statistical analyses were performed using GraphPad Prism v8.0 and R. Normality and variance assumptions were assessed using Shapiro-Wilk and Levene's tests.
8. Experimental animals	Methods 2.17. Six-week-old male BALB/c nude mice were purchased from Jiangsu Jicui Biopharmaceutical and maintained under specific pathogen-free conditions.
9. Experimental procedures	Methods 2.17. Xenograft inoculation, housing conditions, tumor measurement schedule, euthanasia procedures, and ethical approval were described.
10. Results	Results 3.8 and Fig. 8. Tumor volume and tumor weight comparisons were reported with statistical significance. Effect sizes and confidence intervals were not reported.