

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

August 25, 2012



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: GUT immune response in the presence of HCV infection plain text May 21 2014.docx).

Title: GUT immune response in the presence of HCV infection

Author: Helal F. Hetta, Minesh J. Mehta, and Mohamed Tarek M. Shata

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Immunology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 10482

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers

Reviewers comments:

Reviewer 1:

The paper "Gut immune response in HCV" submitted for publication in World Journal of Immunology by Helal F. Hetta and coworkers is interesting but some structural changes are needed. Major points:- the Authors should address their review article directly to the main topic -the Authors should explain more extensively the contents of several sentences like: "Gut induced tolerance include other suppressive mechanisms to ensure that persistent food allergy is relatively rare [63]". This sentence, and several others, become clear only reading the papers cited in the reference list, an action required frequently in this review article. -Figure 1, "Portal circulation: Shared Liver and Gut Circulation" should be eliminated since well known by all readers.- Figure n. 2 "Link between Gut and hepatic immune responses in HCV infection" may be of help, but it is undecipherable in the present form ; a substantial improvement is required. Minor points:-Title: I suggest the authors to improve the title of this review article.-Introduction: I know that the disease was named non-A, non-B hepatitis by Harvey Alter in 1978; HCV was discovered years later by dr. Michael Houghton.-HCV replication, page 5, lines 18,19 "Extra-hepatic compartments might serve as privileged reservoirs for HCV" Why privileged?

Response:

Changes has been made to address the main concerns of the reviewer 1.

Fig (1) has been removed.

Fig (2) has been changed to improve it.

The title has been changed to

GUT immune response in the presence of HCV infection

Michael Houghton reference was added.

Reviewer 2:

This is an excellent review, dealing with the gut-liver axis in HCV-infected patients. The paper is clear and well written, very informative and agreeable to read. Figures are very explicative. The only comment I have to offer is to shorten the paragraph regarding antiviral treatment, as it is less inherent the aim of the paper.

Response:

Paragraph of anti-viral treatment was shortened.

Reviewer 3:

Thorough review, interesting topic. Needs minimum grammar check, needs reviewing of the images (some words are misspelled)

Response:

Changes were made in Fig 2 and grammar was checked.

Reviewer 4:

Abstract needs grammar review. Figure 2 should be edited for better quality and presentation.

Response:

Changes were made in Fig 2 and grammar was checked.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

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