

ANSWERING REVIEWERS



July 7, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: WJG_11399_reviesed.doc).

Title: NONINVASIVE ASSESSMENT OF PORTAL HYPERTENSION IN CIRRHOSIS: LIVER STIFFNESS AND BEYOND

Author: Stefanescu Horia, Procopet Bogdan

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 11399

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 reviewer

- (1) *This is an interesting review article on alternatives to liver stiffness measurement (LSM) for assessing portal hypertension (PH) in cirrhosis. I think you have to change the title as currently, the gold standard for assessing PH is measurement of hepatic vein portal gradient (HVPG) and not LSM. This is not simply an issue of title rephrasing, as we do not have good enough alternatives to HVPG. Thus, you have to reorganize your paper to better reflect this lack of accurate methods. The addition of some tables or graphs would also enhance the readability of your work.*

We added in the introduction an overview of the role of HVPG in assessing PH and its complications and we changed the title of the manuscript accordingly. The new title, which better reflects the content of the work, is: "NONINVASIVE ASSESSMENT OF PORTAL HYPERTENSION IN CIRRHOSIS: LIVER STIFFNESS AND BEYOND".

Although the reviewer's suggestion to insert graphs or tables is a good one, we decided against it. Since we cited a large number of reviews and meta-analyses, the synthetic data on the subject were already presented elsewhere, so we didn't want to violate the copyright rules by reproducing them here (even partially).

3 References were checked and corrected, when needed.

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

Sincerely yours,

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