

## Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

October 30, 2014



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 13894-edited.doc).

**Title:** ADIPOKINES LEVELS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE SEVERITY OF LIVER DISEASE IN PATIENTS WITH ALCOHOLIC CIRRHOSIS.

**Authors:** Kalafateli M, Triantos C, Tsochatzis E, Michalaki M, Koutroumpakis E, Thomopoulos K, Kyriazopoulou V, Jelastopulu E, Burroughs AK, Lambropoulou-Karatza C, Nikolopoulou V

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 13894

Reviewer No 2953378

We would like to thank the reviewer for the useful comments. During the study period, none of the patients with HCC developed portal vein thrombosis or extrahepatic metastasis. The size of the tumor lesions remained stable during follow-up (median: 25.5 (25-27) months). Two of these patients underwent surgical resection of the lesion with subsequent radiofrequency ablation. The statistical analysis between adipokines' levels and progression of HCC during study could not be done due to the small number of events.

We studied the levels of adipokines only in patients with alcoholic liver cirrhosis considering that the etiology of liver disease is associated with serum adipokines' concentrations (Scand J Gastroenterol. 2008;43(9):1128-36, Hepatology 2009;50:957-969) and, thus, to ensure that our observations would not be biased by disease as a confounding factor. However, we agree with the reviewer that further research is needed to confirm these results in other liver diseases such as chronic hepatitis C.

Reviewer No 2535483

We kindly thank the reviewer for the useful comments. We have cited some more recent relevant studies on the topic (references 8, 9, 13, 29, 45). The abbreviations of MELD and NAFLD have been spelled out as the reviewer suggested.

We hope that our manuscript is now suitable for publication in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

C. Triantos, M. Kalafateli

Two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The first signature is on the left and the second is on the right.