

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

December 30, 2014



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 15210 for_submission.doc).

Title: Contrast-enhanced ultrasound for quantitative assessment of portal pressure in canine liver fibrosis

Author: Lin Zhai, Lan-Yan Qiu, Yuan Zu, Yan Yan, Xiao-Zhuan Ren, Jun-Feng Zhao, Yu-Jiang Liu, Lin-Xue Qian

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 15210

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

Reviewed by 02861346

(1) Since you have the liver biopsy samples. Could you show us some histological results to correlate the phenotype you have observed. Sirius Red or IHC of alpha Smooth muscle actin could be included. It could be also fine if you have qPCR results of Procoll1a1.

The results of liver biopsy indicate that the models are successful, and this study is mainly to explore the correlation between FPP and CEUS parameters, so the detail histological results will supplement in future studies.

(2) Do you have sera analysis such as ALT and AST?

This study did not focus on making a successful model, so the sera analysis did not be provided in this study.

Reviewed by 02860760

(1) There is no mention to "The normal canines" are they the same ones used as model but before inducing fibrosis or a control group?

Before establishing the models, the normal canines were performed FPP and CEUS as baseline or control group.

(2) Timing during the week period for portal pressure measurement or liver biopsy was not clarified. Were these procedure performed on the same time point during the week day for each animal?

Yes, these procedure performed on the same time point.

(3) Authors need to settle ROC curves and estimate sensitivity and specificity of the CEUS vs fibrosis and FPP measurement.

The ROC curves were added in the results.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

Qian Linxue

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