

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



January 8, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 16205-review.doc).

Title: Protective effect of bicyclol on bile duct ligation-induced hepatic fibrosis in rats.

Author: Yongzhan Zhen, Naren Li, Hongwei He, Shuangshuang Zhao, Guang-ling Zhang, Xiao-fang Hao and Rong-guang Shao

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 16205

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

1 Format has been updated

We changed the nonstandard format, such as “**Units and quantum**”, “**Common statistical expressions**”, “**Denotation of statistical significance**” in our manuscript. The revised version has to comply with relevant requirements of “**BPG’s Revision Policies for Basic Study**” and “**Writing requirements of basic study**”.

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

First of all, we sincerely thank the expert for reviewing our manuscript and putting forward suggestions and comments. We make a detailed point - by - point responses as follows.

- (1) According to the suggestions reviewed by 00053786, we correct the spelling mistakes in the text mentioned by reviewer. **One** mistake is “anti-fibrotic” in the first sentence of the Results part. Bicyclol repressed the expression of liver fibrogenic genes, the correct spelling is “anti-fibrotic”. **The other one** is “injure” in second sentence of paragraph two of the Discussion part, the noun form “injury” could be used.
- (2) We make a detailed interpretation for the suggestions reviewed by 00061674. **First**, The methods, which used in scoring of liver fibrosis in H&E stained liver sections and measurement of deposited collagen area in the Sirius Red stained liver sections, were conducted by a blinded quantitative assessment according to reference 21. And this is a common method to evaluate the degree of liver fibrosis. Sirius Red stain is specificity for collagen, which always accumulation and hyperplasia during liver fibrogenesis. **Second**, Rats were prone to visceral hemorrhage after bile duct ligation. So we administered vitamin K to all animals of the BDL groups to prevent internal bleeding. While sham-operated control group only opened abdominal cavity and then sutured the incision. Also, this is a kind of standard operating procedure during BDL. **Third**, we replaced “We found a total of 180 genes were both involved in two set of significant changed genes” with “We found a total of 180 significant changed genes were both contained in BDL vs sham and bicyclol treated group vs BDL” to clarified the mean of “two set”. **Last**, we seriously consider the expert’s comment and decided to delete the last sentence before the conclusion “it might be a regular selection for most kinds of chronic liver injury to repress the liver fibrogenesis”.
- (3) According to the suggestions reviewed by 00006459, we provide a more contrast image “BDL-Bic” replace the previous image in Figure 1 A “BDL-Bic”. The rest of the images has conforms to the magazine's requirements. And this images showing the effect of bicyclol on liver fibrosis induced by BDL.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

We revised the reference list according to the relevant requirements of “**BPG’s Revision Policies for Basic Study**” and “**Writing requirements of basic study**”.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized initials and a surname, likely representing the author or a representative of the authors.