

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

April 9, 2015



Dear Editor,
please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 16371-review.doc).

Title: Hepatitis C treatment in the elderly: new possibilities and controversies towards interferon-free regimens.

Authors: Umberto Vespasiani-Gentilucci, Giovanni Galati, Paolo Gallo, Antonio De Vincentis, Elisabetta Riva and Antonio Picardi

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 16371

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

1) Format has been updated

2) Revisions have been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers

1. **Reviewer 02992021** - No revisions required

2. **Reviewer 02860512** - Only few data about the effectiveness and safety of second and third generation DAA's in elderly patients are available. Meanwhile further DAA's have been (and is about to be) approved yet. The authors should update as mandatory.

Answer: We completely agree with the reviewer that an update concerning the DAAs meanwhile approved (co-formulated ABT-450/Ritonavir/Ombitasvir plus Dasabuvir; Sofosbuvir plus Ledipasvir), or which are in advanced phase of clinical development (Grazoprevir + Elbasvir), was essential and we have now introduced these data in the pertinent paragraph ("Towards new treatment regimens: IFN-free doesn't mean free from contraindications, side effects and interactions"). At the moment, relevant data concerning treatment in the elderly with the even newer DAA combinations, such as Sofosbuvir + GS-5816 (Gilead Sciences) or Asunaprevir + Daclatasvir + Beclabuvir, are not available, since relative works are published mostly in abstract form.

3) References and typesetting were corrected.

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

Yours sincerely,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'U. Vespasiani', written over a white background.