

Dear Editors and Reviewers,

Thank you again for considering us for publication in your journal. We are pleased to inform you that we have revised our manuscript according to the editors' suggestions. We sincerely thank the Editors and Reviewers for their comments because the paper is now radically improved.

In the revised version of the manuscript, we performed a complete revision of the paper in order to answer all editors' and reviewers' suggestions.

#### **MAJOR COMMENTS:**

##### Reviewer 1:

*This review underlines the necessity for an integrated prognostic tool for the assessment of prognosis of hepatocellular carcinoma in order to better select patients for liver transplantation. It thoroughly revises all pre-transplant and post-transplant available tools, their benefit and drawbacks. All in all, an interesting, well-design, well-written and useful review. Minor (yet frequent) spelling mistakes, minor language polishing is needed.*

We sincerely thank the Reviewer for this comment and we are pleased to inform him that a language polishing has been made. We have sent the manuscript to an official English translator. We think that this will upgrade the English level of our review to an A level.

##### Reviewer 2:

*The manuscript title may be not representing the content in manuscript (eg. "Aggressiveness" should be deleted). The detail in manuscript in most parts is too long and should be concise and clearer . Other biologic markers of HCC should be discussed eg. human cervical cancer oncogene, human telomerase reverse transcriptase mRNA, glypican-3, gamma-glutamyl transferase II, alpha-L-fucosidase, transforming growth factor-beta1, tumor-specific growth factor. Conclusion part should be better summarizing. English writing and grammar should be corrected*

We again thank the Reviewer for this important comment since it has helped us to complete our manuscript. As suggested, the word aggressiveness has been deleted from the title. Also, we have summarized details and the conclusion is now more concise and clearer (600 words have been deleted). Moreover, a new chapter "Other biomarkers" has been added to the review as suggested.

Also, the manuscript has been corrected by an official English translator in order to improve English writing and grammar.

## MINOR COMMENTS:

1. *Is this the full name? It must be the same as copyright*

This issue has been corrected.

2. *Authors are required to make this statement in the manuscript's title page (please see sample wording in attachment). A copy of signed statement should be provided to the BPG in PDF format, which are necessary for final acceptance, Thank you!*

We would like to apologize for not including it in the initial paper and would like to inform you that we have provided the conflict-of-interest statement file.

3. *Audio core tip: In order to attract readers to read your full-text article, we request that the author make an audio file describing your final core tip, it is necessary for final acceptance. Please refer to Instruction to authors on our website or attached Format for detailed information.*

As requested, we have added an audio of the final core tip.

4. *Please reformat all the reference numbers (superscript with square brackets). Please check throughout. Normal line space is required. Please check throughout. Thank you!*

Again we would like to apologize for our mistake, the problem has been solved.

5. *Please add PubMed citation numbers and DOI citation to the reference list and list all authors. Please revise throughout. For those references that have not been indexed by PubMed, a printed copy of the first page of the full reference should be submitted.*

We added the ODI using Crossref® and PMID numbers when possible. Also, we searched the final title to Google Scholar and store screenshot images of the results.

We have not been able yet to subject the manuscript to CrossCheck analysis as the acceptance of the membership has not been accepted yet. As soon as possible we will solve this problem. We would like to apologize for the possible inconvenience.

Finally, we would like take this opportunity to thank you for your useful comments.

Best regards.

Umberto Cillo