

ANSWERING REVIEWERS



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in word format (file name: 20262-Review.doc).

Title: Alpha-fetoprotein and des-gamma-carboxy-prothrombin at twenty-four weeks after interferon-based therapy predict hepatocellular carcinoma development

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Hepatology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 20262

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

1. To Reviewer 00012386, thank you for your kindly review.

Comment 1:

A sentence 'repermeabilization of the umbilical vein' is incomprehensible, so we deleted this sentence.

Comment 2:

Eighty patients were treated for HCC with hepatectomy, transcatheter chemoembolization, or radio frequency ablation therapy in each hospital. More details of treatment history were not investigated in this study.

We added this sentence in MATERIALS AND METHODS.

Comment 3:

I was sorry for my spelling error. I changed "Surveikkance" to Surveillance.

Comment 4:

Normal range of AFP and DCP were under 10 ng/mL and under 40 mAU/mL, respectively.

We added this sentence in RESULTS.

We added new Figure 1 and new Figure 2 in our manuscript.

A change of those tumor markers after IFN therapy was shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2.

We added this sentence in RESULTS.

Comment 5:

In Table 1, we added IFN treatment history. No significant difference on the incidence of HCC development was observed for IFN treatment history (naïve or non-naïve).

2. To Reviewer 02942902, thank you for your kindly review.

Major Comments: 1

We added new Table 3 in our manuscript.

In our study SVR was not associated to development of HCC. And the levels of AFP and DCP were not

associated with the development of HCC in patients with a SVR (Table 3).
We added this sentence in RESULTS.

Major Comments: 2

Normal range of AFP and DCP were under 10 ng/mL and under 40 mAU/mL, respectively.
We added this sentence in RESULTS.

Minor Comments: 1

Abstract section is added in new our manuscript.

Minor Comments: 2

I was sorry for my spelling error. I changed “Surveikkance” to Surveillance.

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