

Editors-in-Chief
World Journal of Gastroenterology

Dear Editors,

Thank you for the information concerning the manuscript No. 21585 entitled “**Is liver biopsy still needed in children with chronic viral hepatitis?**”.

We find the Reviewers' comments valuable and contributing to the improvement of the article. The manuscript has been reviewed accordingly and the revised paper is attached. Our answers to queries of the Reviewers and the consequent changes are described in detail below **in bold**. All changes made to the manuscript are highlighted in yellow.

Reviewer #1:

The review written by Pokorska-Śpiwak et al. summarizes the indication and usefulness of liver biopsy in pediatric patients with liver diseases. The review is well written, but there are some concerns that need to be addressed.

Thank you for the acknowledgement of our work.

Major point The significance of liver biopsy for the diagnosis of inherited metabolic disease should be mentioned

In this review we aimed to focus on the role of the liver biopsy in children with chronic viral hepatitis. However, we added relevant information on other indications for the liver biopsy to the manuscript (part Introduction) according to the Reviewer: “Liver diseases of different etiologies (*e.g.*, viral, autoimmune, nonalcoholic, and drug-induced hepatitis), as well as inherited metabolic diseases, cholestasis, liver tumors, acute liver failure, abnormal liver tests of unknown etiology, and others are considered as indications for liver biopsy in children.”

Minor point Liver biopsy by transjugular approach can be safely performed in some patients with coagulopathy. It should be mentioned.

Thank you for this remark. This information was added to the manuscript in part COMPLICATIONS AND CONTRAINDICATIONS: “In case of high-risk patients (with coagulopathy and severe liver disease, pancytopenia, or clinically evident ascites) and in patients with contraindications to percutaneous liver biopsy (e.g., haematological conditions), a transjugular instead of percutaneous approach is recommended”

Reviewer #2::

Dear Editor; The review about liver biopsy in children with viral hepatitis is good. There are basic information about liver biopsy in this review.

Thank you for the acknowledgement of our work.

The studies about liver biopsy in pediatric patients with hepatitis B and C should be added as tables .

Thank you for this remark. We added Table 2. to the manuscript showing the liver biopsy findings in children with chronic viral hepatitis B and C.

Reviewer #3:

The paper mainly focused on the controversy about the necessity of liver biopsy in children. It is an interesting topic and the paper was organized well.

Thank you for the acknowledgement of our work.

It is better to list the articles about children with chronic viral hepatitis and liver biopsy, illustrate the biopsy results or shortage of liver biopsy or something related in briefly.

Thank you for this remark. We added Table 2. to the manuscript showing the liver biopsy findings in children with chronic viral hepatitis B and C.

We hope that the manuscript in this amended form conveys a clearer message and is now liable to be acceptable for publication.

Yours sincerely,

On behalf of all the coauthors,

Maria Pokorska-Śpiewak, MD, PhD

(Reviewer Number ID: 03337012)