

To: WJG Editors-in-Chief and Dr Yuan Qi

Re: WJG 24816. Severson et al. Genetic factors that affect nonalcoholic fatty liver disease – a systematic clinical review

Transmitted electronically

Dear Dr. Yuan Qi and Editors:

Thank you for consideration of and interest in our manuscript. We are pleased that, with revision, you consider it suitable for publication in WJG. We have considered the comments of the reviewers with care, and we offer the following responses:

Reviewer 00071640

This manuscript is very scientific and informative

Response: Thank you for your assessment. We are pleased that you found the manuscript informative and appropriately scientific for publication in WJG.

Reviewer 02462252

Well witten [sic] and will be of use to the readership

Response: We appreciate your faith in our manuscript's use to the general readership. That is, of course, what we have hoped for through the course of writing it, and it is good to see that our efforts have been in the right direction.

Reviewer 02445091

This article is informative and presented in a systematic way. There are some minor comments that need to be corrected. Further, the role of many leptin polymorphisms, like the LEPR G3057A variant which was shown to be expressed in many NAFLD patients, was not included in this article. Please check the list of abbreviation for its

completeness. Eg. JAK-STAT; HFE etc. Correct the Typological errors in page 9 - 'threefold'; 'Overexpression'.

Response: We are glad you found the article informative, and thank you for your thorough assessment of the manuscript. To respond to each of your points:

- Due to limitations of length, we were not able to discuss all of the genetic variations that have been described as influencing NAFLD. As requested by the reviewer, we have added *LEPR* variants to Table 3 of the revised manuscript. We have also incorporated a recent study on the effect of myeloid epithelial reproductive tyrosine kinase (*MERTK*) on NAFLD.
- You were correct regarding the incomplete abbreviation list, and your attention to detail is appreciated. This has been corrected, and all abbreviations in the manuscript are now represented in the abbreviation list.
- We have re-read the revised MS with care, and we have run it through an excellent spelling and grammar checker [that of Microsoft Word]. We believe that all spellings and grammar are correct now.

Again, we thank you each for your time and evaluation. We trust that you will deem the enclosed R1 manuscript worthy of final acceptance.

Sincerely,

Tyler J. Severson

Siddesh Besur

Herbert L. Bonkovsky