



5777 East Mayo Boulevard
Phoenix, Arizona 85054
480-342-1010
mayoclinic.org

Dear Editor:

On behalf of my co-authors, I am pleased to submit a revision of our submitted article entitled "Hospital resource intensity and cirrhosis mortality in the United States" to the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

We have revised the manuscript based on author comments as described below.

We have provided all materials as delineated by the Revision Submission Guidelines sent to us on 12/19/2016. All documents are included in this submission.

We look forward to the remainder of the peer review process and hope that our work will be published in a future issue of the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amit", followed by a horizontal line.

Amit K. Mathur, MD MS
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Senior Associate Consultant, Transplant Surgery
Chair, Transplant Quality
Division of Transplant Surgery
Department of Surgery
Mayo Clinic Arizona
mathur.amit@mayo.edu

Reviewer comments:

Reviewer #02527485

The study is very interesting although conclusions can be expected. Anyway I congratulate authors. Therefore the manuscript is suitable for publication. Only a minor question: table 1: causes of cirrhosis: I do not understand the difference between Alcoholic liver disease and alcoholic cirrhosis. Moreover, there were HBV related cirrhosis or at least HBsAg positive patients?

We appreciate the support of the reviewer. We have revised Table 1 and apologize for our error. The second category of "alcoholic cirrhosis" was placed in error, and it has been omitted, as it was redundant. This has been updated in the revised submission. We did not detect cases of HBV-related cirrhosis, and this was most likely placed in the "Other cirrhosis" category. This is consistent with our previous published work in this area. Hepatitis B is a minor cause of cirrhosis admissions in the United States in comparison to HCV, alcohol-related cirrhosis, and NASH-related cirrhosis. However, we would expect

cirrhosis mortality to be driven by cirrhotic complications, and hospital effects would be similar as seen in other causes of cirrhosis. The clinical detail of hepatitis B serologies in patients admitted in each hospital episode is impossible to know based on the structure of this dataset, but is also not the focus of this analysis.

Reviewer 02567669

Congratulations. Great work

We appreciate the kind words of this reviewer.

Reviewer 03269732

In clinical practice, we often find that cirrhosis mortality varies in different hospital. It is interesting to explore the relationship between the hospital characteristics and mortality. This article entitled "Hospital resource intensity and cirrhosis mortality in United States" by Mathur AK et al. showed that "Hospital characteristics account for a significant proportion of variation in cirrhosis mortality". This paper provides readers new insight of the health care and management in patients with cirrhosis. Therefore, it is recommended to be published.

We appreciate the kind words of this reviewer.