

Dear editor-in-chief,

Thank you very much for completing the peer review of my manuscript. The comments of the reviewer are very important and helping towards further improving the quality of the paper. I have incorporated the suggested modifications point-to-point, including corrections of few typographical errors.

**Reviewer 1 (ID# 02528812):**

The manuscript entitled "Mutational analysis of hepatitis E virus ORF1 Y-domain: Effects on RNA replication and virion infectivity" by Mohammad K. Parvez, is well performed and presented. In this study, the author has evaluated the characteristics of hepatitis E virus Y-domain derived from ORF1 and the role of this domain in the life cycle of virus. This study shows the importance and essentiality of Y-domain in HEV replication and infectivity. Generally, it is a novel study, well written and well organized. The references are not according to the format of the journal. Reference section: PMID and DOI should be included. Text: The reference numbers should be superscripted in square brackets at the end of the sentence.

**Response:**

1. The references are formatted according to journal's style. Missing authors in few references are included.
2. Both PMID and DOI are incorporated in all references. For some references, there is no DOI available.
3. All reference numbers in the text are superscripted.

In addition, the text is also updated as per the recommendations given in the edited manuscript file. All modifications are highlighted (in red) in the revised manuscript.

I do hope that the re-submitted manuscript would be acceptable. I look forward to further revise the manuscript if required.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mohammad Khalid Parvez.

