

Point to point response

Reviewer 1

I have only one comment regarding the sentence below: "has been reported that VitD3, as synthesized in the skin by photolysis from 7-dehydrocholesterol or ingested with food" -- the author should specify that VitD3 is found in very minor amounts in food (it is usually taken orally in supplement form).

Response: Thank you for your constructive comment. We deleted the "ingested with food".

The author reviews the potential beneficial role of vitamin D3 supplementation in hepatitis C infected patients treated with direct acting antivirals. The author concludes that "an immunological analysis should be carried out to understand the effect of VitD3 after treatment of DAAs without Peg-IFN." The Editorial is interesting and the author seems to have a great knowledge in the field. I have the following comments:

Response: Thank you for your comments.

1) Based on the cited studies alone, I am not convinced that vitamin D supplementation has a causal –and reversible– effect on the infection or the risk of developing cancer as mentioned. The author may want to add this to the conclusion, i.e. that although evidence so far supports an association, we cannot at this point determine if it is truly causal. This calls for randomized controlled trials or Mendelian randomization studies.

Response:

Thank you for your reasonable and constructive comments. We added some sentences and reference to enhance our hypothesis. (Page 3)

2) There are some typos and misspellings, e.g.:

ribavirin(RBV) -> ribavirin (RBV)

hydroxylated -> hydroxylated

Response:

Thank you for your constructive comments. We corrected them.