

COVER LETTER

23 March 2017

To: The Editor,
World Journal of Hepatology

Re: **Submission of manuscript revision (Manuscript Number 32659) for publication in World Journal of Hepatology**

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit the revised version of our manuscript entitled “*Low serum albumin predicts early mortality in patients with severe hypoxic hepatitis*” for consideration for publication in your esteemed journal.

We appreciate the salient points raised by the reviewer and would like to offer the following point-by-point responses:

1. Reviewer: It would be very interesting if you presented more information not only about the underlying disease but also about the condition of patients, e.g.: the need for vasopressors (how many, duration).

Response: 67% of the study cohort required admission to the ICU for vasopressor support. An additional paragraph highlighting the details of the severity of the patients’ condition has been added on pages 9 and 10 (highlighted in yellow) in the revised manuscript.

2. Reviewer: Were there any differences among survivals and those who died?

Response: The differences among patients with severe hypoxic hepatitis who survived and those who died are summarized in Table 2. There was a significantly higher proportion of males among those who died compared to those who survived. The presence of documented hypotension was also significantly higher among those who died. Patients who died had lower serum albumin and lower ALT but higher creatine kinase, CKMB and troponin-T compared to the survivors. On multivariable

analysis (Table 3), the only independent difference between survivors and those who died was a low serum albumin level at the onset of the hypoxic hepatitis event.

3. Reviewer: Please check the spelling and units in Table1 (alanine, creatine mmol/l or $\mu\text{mol/l}$), also in Table2.

Response: Thank you for pointing out the typographical errors. All the spelling errors and units of measurement in Table 1 and Table 2 have been rectified in the revised version of the manuscript (highlighted in yellow in pages 24 and 26).

We hope that we have satisfactorily addressed all of the reviewer's comments for improvement to our manuscript. We look forward to having our work published in your esteemed journal.

Yours sincerely,



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