

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 33735

**Title:** Genetic biomarkers for HCC risk in Caucasian population

**Reviewer's code:** 02936743

**Reviewer's country:** Poland

**Science editor:** Yuan Qi

**Date sent for review:** 2017-02-28

**Date reviewed:** 2017-03-10

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The aim of this study was to find novel genetic markers that could contribute in predicting HCC susceptibility in Caucasians. The authors identified five genetic markers in key pathways linked to hepatocarcinogenesis (ERCC1-rs3212986, GSTP1-rs1138272, CYP17A1-rs743572, XRCC3-rs1799794, ABCB1-rs112850) that could predict the individual HCC susceptibility, especially in high-risk (HBV/HCV-infected) Caucasians population. The article provides the novel informations that could contribute to improving HCC surveillance, allowing early cancer diagnosis and possible curative therapy. They showed illustrative CART representation of the markers combination significantly predictive of HCC risk based on their own results on Figure 1. The results of the paper could be important to implement the current guidelines improving genetic-based patients screening and preventive strategies. The authors make a systematic contribution to the research literature in this area of investigation. I can only suggest to shorten slightly the list of references (68 positions!!, sometimes 5 papers are cited per one sentence) and may be also the Discussion subchapter text should be



## BAISHIDENG PUBLISHING GROUP INC

7901 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 501, Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA

Telephone: +1-925-223-8242

Fax: +1-925-223-8243

E-mail: [bpgoffice@wjgnet.com](mailto:bpgoffice@wjgnet.com)

<http://www.wjgnet.com>

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shorten. Small errors in the text (Discussion) - e.g. "CYP17A1 is an enzyme that pays role in the..." (double words "in the" are in this fragment). The work is very interesting, also from clinical point of view based on the genetic molecular techniques. It may carry practical importance. Congratulations for all the authors! I have no meritoric critical comments. The paper can be accepted for publication providing that the above small errors are eliminated.