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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 36640

Title: Retreatment of patients with treatment failure of direct-acting antivirals: focus on hepatitis C virus genotype 1b

Reviewer's code: 00032020

Reviewer's country: Japan

Science editor: Ya-Juan Ma

Date sent for review: 2017-10-13

Date reviewed: 2017-10-18

Review time: 4 Days

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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Manuscript NO: 36640 Title: Retreatment of patients with treatment failure of direct-acting antivirals: focus on hepatitis C virus genotype 1b Manuscript Type: Minireviews Retreatment of DAA is an important issue for patients with HCV. The present minireview is very informative. In DAA treatment, SVR rate was inferior in patients with genotype 3, compared to patients with genotype 1 and 2. How about retreatment for patients with genotype? Minor; 'Nonnucleoside inhibitors' had better replace to 'Non-nucleoside inhibitors'.



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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 36640

Title: Retreatment of patients with treatment failure of direct-acting antivirals: focus on hepatitis C virus genotype 1b

Reviewer's code: 00722050

Reviewer's country: Canada

Science editor: Ya-Juan Ma

Date sent for review: 2017-10-24

Date reviewed: 2017-10-25

Review time: 22 Hours

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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a really minireview focusing on the retreatment of patients with treatment failure of direct-acting antiviral agents (DAAs) against hepatitis C virus genotype 1b (HCV GT1b) infection. The review needs to be expanded in consideration of the fulminant liver failure associated with GT1b. In particular, Sergi C et al. reviewed this aspect in 1998 (please cite Journal of Hepatology 1998; 29: 861-871). Genotyping revealed type 1b in both cases. Of the two HCV RNA-positive cases with evidence of HBV infection, one case had a real coinfection showing simultaneous detection of HBV DNA in serum and liver, while the other patient was a chronic HBV carrier, seropositive for HBsAg and anti-HBc IgG but negative for anti-HBc IgM and HBV DNA in liver tissue. Thus, the role of co-infection and the failure of DAAs need to be expanded.



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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 36640

Title: Retreatment of patients with treatment failure of direct-acting antivirals: focus on hepatitis C virus genotype 1b

Reviewer's code: 00030389

Reviewer's country: Japan

Science editor: Ya-Juan Ma

Date sent for review: 2017-10-24

Date reviewed: 2017-10-28

Review time: 4 Days

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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors summarized the retreatment regimens for patients with failure of peginterferon and ribavirin plus HCV NS3/4A inhibitors and for those with failure of combinations of HCV NS3/4A protease inhibitors, HCV NS5A inhibitors and/or HCV NS5B polymerase inhibitors. This minireview is interesting and delivers some useful information. However there are several concerns. Major comments #1 In the section of "RETREATMENT OF PATIENTS INFECTED WITH HCV GT1B WITH FAILURE OF HCV NS5A INHIBITORS" and in the section of "HCV NS5B POLYMERASE INHIBITORS-RASs IN PATIENTS INFECTED WITH HCV GT1B", the same description from reference 39 appears in duplicated manner. It is easier to understand, if they can arrange these two sections to one section. #2. In the section of "RETREATMENT OF PATIENTS INFECTED WITH HCV GT1B WITH FAILURE OF PEGINTERFERON AND



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RIBAVIRIN PLUS HCV NS3/4A INHIBITORS”, the description of AASLD guideline is lengthy and difficult to understand. Please describe more simple. #3. In the abstract, they say “It is important to avoid drugs that target the regions targeted by initial drugs”, but they also say “it is possible that the next-generation new combinations of DAAs, such as sofosbuvir/velpatasvir/voxilaprevir for 12 weeks or glecaprevir/pibrentasvir for 12 weeks, seem to achieve SVR without considering these regimens”. They did not explain this paradoxical description in the main text. They should explain this paradoxical description.



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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 36640

Title: Retreatment of patients with treatment failure of direct-acting antivirals: focus on hepatitis C virus genotype 1b

Reviewer's code: 02444760

Reviewer's country: China

Science editor: Ya-Juan Ma

Date sent for review: 2017-10-24

Date reviewed: 2017-11-01

Review time: 8 Days

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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The minireview of 'Retreatment of patients with treatment failure of direct-acting antivirals: focus on hepatitis C virus genotype 1b' summarizes the retreatment of chronic hepatitis C (CHC) patients who are insensitive to direct-acting antiviral agents (DAAs), including boceprevir and telaprevir, with or without peginterferon and/or ribavirin. Because of the high-prevalent infection of HCV genotype 1b (GT1b) in Japanese CHC patients, retreatment regimens of HCV GT1b is intensively discussed. Next-generation combinations of DAAs, such as sofosbuvir/velpatasvir/voxilaprevir for 12 weeks or glecaprevir/pibrentasvir for 12 weeks, are proposed to be potential solution for the HCV GT1b-infected patients with treatment failure, mainly on a basis of targeting distinctive regions. These results provide physicians with instructions for drug selection, thus could be valuable to the therapeutic strategy. However, several problems in the text have to be



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mentioned. 1. There are some redundancies in the text, such as 'For HCV GT1 and non-cirrhotic patients who were previously treated with peginterferon and ribavirin plus HCV NS3/4A protease inhibitors, a daily fixed-dose combination of ledipasvir (90 mg)/sofosbuvir (400 mg) with or without ribavirin for 12 and 24 weeks led to SVR rates of 96.2% (50/52) or 100% (51/51) and 97.2% (35/36) or 100% (38/38), respectively[29]' (Page 9). 2. It seems to be little information in the 'CONCLUSION'. Improvements with clinical instructions will be appreciated. 3. The text may be somewhat complicated to the audiences. Plain, yet precise, expression is suggested, probably by the native speaker. 4. Table 1 and 2 should be presented in the format of three-line table.



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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 36640

Title: Retreatment of patients with treatment failure of direct-acting antivirals: focus on hepatitis C virus genotype 1b

Reviewer's code: 02441096

Reviewer's country: Egypt

Science editor: Ya-Juan Ma

Date sent for review: 2017-10-24

Date reviewed: 2017-11-05

Review time: 12 Days

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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Comments to the Editor: Thanks for inviting me to review the mini-review entitled "Retreatment of patients with treatment failure of direct-acting antiviral: focus on hepatitis C virus genotype 1b". Minor Comment: • The article needs revision in term of structure and grammar. • Language evaluation: "B" Comments to Authors: 1. TITLE Reflect the major content of the article. 2. ABSTRACT It fulfills the journal requirements. 3. INTRODUCTION It provides nearly sufficient background regarding the studied topic, however, and in order to satisfy the reader, the authors need to emphasize the following: Viral proteins targeted by HCV DAAs in form of a diagram or even short description. Genotype coverage of each DAAs. Definition of SVR has to be included. Specifying ways of screening for (RASs); e.g. direct/ deep sequencing. Reviewing literature for mapping of naturally occurring HCV variants in different



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geographic areas in the context of current HCV therapy. The aim of the work has to be mentioned at the end of this section. 4. TEXT: An overall theoretical analysis of the study results is well covered. Tables & figures are descriptive & informative. Conclusion is satisfactory. 5. REFERENCES: • Relevant updated references are cited • Ref. No(4): title is missing • Ref. No (6) is that No (22): This has to be revised. • The journal style for writing this section is well maintained