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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology
Manuscript NO: 36962
Title: Autoimmune liver diseases-related autoantibodies in patients with biliary atresia
Reviewer's code: 03011144
Reviewer's country: India
Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong
Date sent for review: 2017-11-22
Date reviewed: 2017-11-22
Review time: 1 Hour

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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Further focus on clinical outcome - jaundice clearance vs ab titre would be interesting. Was maternal sera also analysed to co-relate the ab titre in the children?

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology
Manuscript NO: 36962
Title: Autoimmune liver diseases-related autoantibodies in patients with biliary atresia
Reviewer's code: 01553680
Reviewer's country: Japan
Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong
Date sent for review: 2017-11-22
Date reviewed: 2017-11-22
Review time: 8 Hours

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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this study, the authors tried to evaluate the utility and specificity of autoimmune liver disease (ALD)-related autoAbs in patients with biliary atresia (BA). They found that anti-BPO Ab and ANCA were more frequently detected in BA patients than in controls. Interestingly, ANCA positivity was closely associated with the appearance of post-operative cholangitis. This study is well-controlled retrospective one and the authors successfully provide evince that a significant population of patients with BA were positive for ALD-related autoAbs. Please address the following points to strengthen their conclusion. 1) If BA is characterized by autoAb production, then how the autoAbs are produced? Autoimmune-diseases are usually associated with pro-inflammatory cytokine responses. Please examine the serum levels of pro-inflammatory Th1 and Th2 cytokines with the ability to enhance autoAb production. 2) Neutrophil activation is associated with ANCA production. Is there any evidence that

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neutrophils are activated in BA? Please examine the number of peripheral blood neutrophils in patients with BA. 3) Please discuss the mechanisms accounting for high prevalence of anti-BPO Ab in BA patients. 4) Immune responses to intestinal microflora underlie the immuno-pathogenesis of several autoimmune disorders including ALD. Is there any evidence that dysbiosis is involved in the immune-pathogenesis of BA? Please discuss.