

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 37295

**Title:** Incidence of Hepatocellular Carcinoma in Patients With Chronic Liver Disease Due to Hepatitis B or C and Coinfected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus: a retrospective cohort study

**Reviewer's code:** 03262379

**Reviewer's country:** Iran

**Science editor:** Ze-Mao Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2017-11-29

**Date reviewed:** 2017-12-04

**Review time:** 5 Days

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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"/> 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 checked="" 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

Hello, I reviewed the manuscript entitled "Incidence of Hepatocellular Carcinoma in Patients With Chronic Liver Disease Due to Hepatitis B or C and Coinfected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus: a retrospective cohort study". The authors looked for the impact of HIV infection on development of HCC in patients with viral hepatitis. They found no association between development of HCC and HIV infection in these patients. This study is presenting interesting findings and I suggest few amendments: 1. I suggest to exclude the data for survival of patients from the last part of results and also the part from discussion given it is unrelated to the main aim of the study. 2. Can authors present how treatment of HBV or HCV and also sustained response to treatments impacted the HCC development in this study? 3. It is important to



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emphasize that this study was conducted on patients referred to tertiary care center. 4. Patients with hepatitis B routinely stratified based on clinical and laboratory findings in groups of patients with active, inactive and etc needing a range of managements such as antiviral therapies. It is why I guess just a proportion of patient without HIV underwent antiviral therapy while patients with HIV should be treated with common antiviral therapies of both infection and so most of them were actively treated. I suggest authors to present the clinical presentation of patients with hepatitis B in both group if the data available. Regards

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**Reviewer's code:** 00503560

**Reviewer's country:** Japan

**Science editor:** Ze-Mao Gong

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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	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	BPG Search:	<input checked="" 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

In this manuscript by Patrícia dos Santos Marcon and colleagues investigated the incidence of HCC in HBV or HCV infected patients with or without HIV infection. They concluded that the presence of HIV coinfection in chronic liver disease due to HBV or HCV showed no relation to the increase of HCC incidence. The manuscript is generally well-written, the statistical analysis is good, and the purpose of the study is clinically important. Several comments are described below. 1) As is well known, the incidence of HCC is different among patients infected with HBV and HCV. Therefore, the authors should compare the incidence between HIV/HCV coinfecting patients vs. HCV mono-infected patients, and HIV/HBV coinfecting patients vs. HBV mono-infected patients. In this cohort, the number of HBV infected patients is low. The authors should



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show the results of subanalyses only in HCV infected patients with or without HIV infection. If impossible, the authors should describe regarding that as a limitation. 2) As is well known, the elimination of HCV and the suppression of HBV can reduce the incidence of HCC. Therefore, the authors should consider this and carry out the present analyses. The authors should mention this in the discussion. 3) In the note of Table 4, the authors should correct "CHC=Hepatocellular carcinoma" to "HCC=Hepatocellular carcinoma".