



**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**Manuscript NO:** 38680

**Title:** Responsibility of hepatitis C virus in the development of hepatocellular carcinoma:  
From molecular alterations to possible solutions

**Reviewer’s code:** 01805500

**Reviewer’s country:** Italy

**Science editor:** Li-Jun Cui

**Date sent for review:** 2018-03-08

**Date reviewed:** 2018-03-08

**Review time:** 2 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer’s expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input type="checkbox"/> No

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Authors should take into account that disruption of immune surveillance, paradoxically due to the strong therapeutical effect of new antivirals, may facilitate the emergence of metastatic clones of HCC. This is very plausible. Liver cirrhosis is not an unique stage



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in which HCC presents, as authors know very well. There are also co-morbidities, which play an important role. Finally, I have noticed too many references for a letter.

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

##### ***Google Search:***

- The same title
- Duplicate publication
- Plagiarism
- [Y] No

##### ***BPG Search:***

- The same title
- Duplicate publication
- Plagiarism
- [Y] No



**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**Manuscript NO:** 38680

**Title:** Responsibility of hepatitis C virus in the development of hepatocellular carcinoma:  
From molecular alterations to possible solutions

**Reviewer’s code:** 02521807

**Reviewer’s country:** Argentina

**Science editor:** Li-Jun Cui

**Date sent for review:** 2018-03-08

**Date reviewed:** 2018-03-08

**Review time:** 3 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer’s expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input type="checkbox"/> No

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The Letter from Bertino et al. is clear and takes an important issue, the HCC and involves its causes, relation with cirrhosis and anti-HCV therapy by DAA. This reviewer consider pertinent to include other considerations already published with



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regard to HCC recurrence. In example the authors only mention two positions (Reig et al., and Cabibbo et al.). Other relevant reports should be included. At least two sound papers such as Ikeda et al. 2017 (Dig Dis Sci. 2017;62(10):2932-2942), Kanwal F,et al. (Gastroenterology. 2017; 153(4):996-1005), and Petta et al (Aliment Pharmacol Ther. 2017;45(1):160-168). Lastly, please replace "tumorogenesis" by "tumorigenesis" in the paragraph. Reference 19. Include "Liver Int" in the journal name (only appears as "Int"). The authors should revise the references because they could excess "auto-citation" of their own papers. Other sound papers from alternative authors may also be illustrative.

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

##### ***Google Search:***

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- Plagiarism
- No

##### ***BPG Search:***

- The same title
- Duplicate publication
- Plagiarism
- No