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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 41015

Title: Clinical Factors associated with Hepatitis B Screening and Vaccination in Underserved patients at High-Risk for Hepatitis B Infection

Reviewer's code: 00002314

Reviewer's country: Italy

Science editor: Xue-Jiao Wang

Date sent for review: 2018-09-06

Date reviewed: 2018-09-23

Review time: 17 Days

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this retrospective study, the authors find that patients at high-risk for HBV were not being adequately screened or vaccinated for HBV in a specific area in the US. The authors conclude that improvements in HBV vaccination should be strongly encouraged



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by all healthcare systems. In general, the study is clearly presented and the methods adequate. I have some minor points that in my opinion should be addressed, to increase the interest for a more general readership: 1) the title should be shortened and more focussed on the key message that the authors wish to convey; 2) the discussion is too long and should be more focussed on the key messages. In addition, one aspect is not discussed: this study reports data from a specific area of the US. The article would be of interest to a more general readership, if mention is made of other areas (both in US and in other countries). The introduction could cover these aspects. 3) Vaccination plans depend on whether or not the patient has to pay for the vaccine. This aspect is not sufficiently covered. In the introduction, it would be important to state whether an officially recommended vaccination plan was in force. 4) The authors should identify what, in their opinion, the key action is to improve vaccination coverage. 5) ABSTRACT. In the penultimate sentence in the results section, something is missing (a typo?). 6) I would consider transforming some tables into graphs for easier reading.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☒ No

BPG Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism



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[Y] No