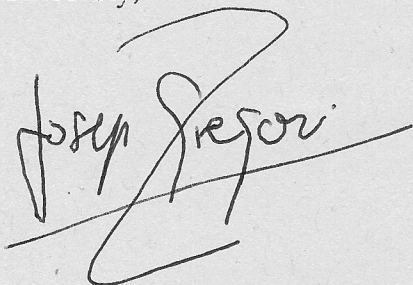


TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

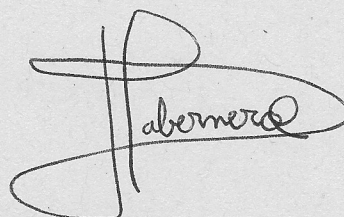
The statistical review of the study entitled "**Characterization of Hepatitis B Virus X Gene Quasispecies Complexity in Monoinfection and Hepatitis Delta Virus Superinfection**" (submission number 45308, World Journal Gastroenterology), was performed by Dr. Josep Gregori, who is a bioinformatician and biomedical statistician, member of the liver disease laboratory-viral hepatitis (Vall d'Hebron Institut Recerca-Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebron) and CIBERehd, and an employee of Roche Diagnostics SL. His contact information is Liver Unit, Liver Disease Laboratory-Viral Hepatitis, Lab 007, Vall d'Hebron Institut Recerca, 08035 Barcelona, Spain, e-mail [josep.gregori@vhir.org](mailto:josep.gregori@vhir.org).

The corresponding author of this study is Dr. David Tabernero member of the liver pathology unit of departments of biochemistry and microbiology (Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebron) and an employee of CIBERehd. His contact address is Liver Pathology Unit, Departments of Biochemistry and Microbiology, Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebron (HUVH), Passeig Vall d'Hebron 119-129, clinical laboratories, 08035 Barcelona, Spain, e-mail [david.tabernero@ciberehd.org](mailto:david.tabernero@ciberehd.org), telephone number +34 932 746 897. As corresponding author, he confirms that Dr. Josep Gregori has conducted and reviewed the bioinformatics and statistics analysis of this study, ensuring their suitability, correctness and proper explanation in the manuscript.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Josep Gregori', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr. Josep Gregori

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tabernero', with a large loop at the beginning and a horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr. David Tabernero