

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 49853

Title: Autoimmune hepatitis in HIV-infected patients: a case series and review of the literature

Reviewer's code: 00005986

Reviewer's country: Italy

Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-06-25 11:58

Reviewer performed review: 2019-06-26 07:54

Review time: 19 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors present a case series of patients with HIV and raised liver function tests from Thailand, who eventually were diagnosed with AIH. The work reads well, it is well organised and clear. The text is coherent and clinically meaningful. References are



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well chosen. Minor remarks: -it would be worth to mention the full work up that has been done for differential diagnosis of raised transaminases, including viral hepatitis serology/viremias (especially hepatitis E status) and rare causes of liver damage -on top of that, did authors include drug-induced liver injury as possible diagnostic hypothesis? -it is interesting to notice that no one developed a flare, which is unusual in AIH. This could be a merit of good treatment protocols but again it is necessary that authors reveal better how they assessed these patients

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

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

BPG Search:

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

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 49853

Title: Autoimmune hepatitis in HIV-infected patients: a case series and review of the literature

Reviewer's code: 02567669

Reviewer's country: Germany

Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-06-25 10:47

Reviewer performed review: 2019-06-30 14:12

Review time: 5 Days and 3 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This manuscript describes 13 HIV-infected patients who developed autoimmune hepatitis. The paper is well written. I should like to suggest some minor changes and additions : In the section "Case Summary" the actual status of HIV-infection must be added (CD4



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count, viral load, stable HIV suppression). It is probable that the emergence of AIH in HIV-infected persons is something like an IRIS. However, it is striking that the presenting symptoms - aminotransferases, jaundice - arose very late in the course of the disease. How was the immune status of patients during the last years? Stable? Or some change in ART which may have induced a rapid improvement of immune status? The authors should indicate levels of alkaline phosphatase, even if the enzyme is not more included in the simplified AIH scoring system. How was AIH score? Can one identify genetic risk factors of AIH in HIV patients? HLA testing done?

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No