

September 30, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 5194-review.doc).

Title: HCV-specific immune response

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 5194 to be considered for publication in the Special Issue (HCV infection) to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of World Journal of Gastroenterology.

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers and Editors:

1 According to the Editor's comments English has been polished, corresponding author's data has been completed, core tip information has been added, for every reference PMID and DOI have been included and figures has been changed for decomposable ones. We believe that the language of our manuscript has reached Grade A, since it has been edited by Lokhande MU (third author) who is English native speaker and we choose not to have our manuscript edited by the an English language editing company.

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers:

(1) According to reviewer **02450507**: number of references has been downsized, although addition of new cites suggested by the other reviewers keeps total reference number higher than 100.

(2) According to reviewer **02462675**: text has been edited following his/her suggestions; a new figure to illustrate specific-T cell priming and effector functions has been added; humoral immune response section has been improved, adding the suggested new information.

(3) According to reviewer **00504015**: use of English has been improved; generalizations about non-cytopathic viruses and correlation with other viruses have been deleted; humoral immune response section has been improved, re-writing the discussion adding suggested cites; in the escape mutation section, new information has been added to discuss Cox's work and to comment the relationship between escape mutation and viral fitness; HCV-specific CTL dysfunction has been discussed in a deeper way.

Thank you again for considering our manuscript for publishing in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,



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