

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Clinical Cases

**Manuscript NO:** 53601

**Title:** Cytokines predict the virological response in chronic hepatitis B patients receiving peginterferon alfa-2a therapy

**Reviewer's code:** 02208246

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** FACG, MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** United States

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-03-03

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-03-09 00:55

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-03-22 10:14

**Review time:** 13 Days and 9 Hours

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 Grade E: Do not publish	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

[ ] Yes

[ Y] No

#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Host and viral factors play key roles in the natural history of chronic hepatitis B, the disease activity, and the effectiveness of antiviral therapy. At present, the antiviral strategy for chronic hepatitis B mainly lies in the effective suppression of the virus and the recovery of HBV-specific immune responses. Antiviral treatment with PEG-IFN effectively inhibits HBV replication and may lead to seroconversion of HBeAg, clearance of HBsAg, normalization of ALT levels, and histologic improvement. Screening multiple biomarkers can clarify the immune mechanism of HBV infection and predict the response to antiviral therapy. the relationship between multiple cytokines and chemokines and the responses to peginterferon  $\alpha$ -2a therapy in patients with CHB has not previously been clarified. In this study, Fu et al analyzed the serum levels of cytokines in CHB patients treated with peginterferon  $\alpha$ -2a in their treatment phases and responses to the therapy. This study is very interesting, and the manuscript is very well written. Minor comments: 1. There are some minor language polishing which should be corrected. 2. I suggest the authors add a reference, and discuss it with this study, "Serum M2BPGi Level Is a Novel Predictive Biomarker for the Responses to Pegylated Interferon- $\alpha$  Treatment in HBeAg-positive Chronic Hepatitis B Patients" by Ming-Yu Zhu et al, J Med Virol, 90 (4), 721-729 PMID: 29247529 DOI: 10.1002/jmv.25010. 3. Tables and figures are very good. Tables may be require an editing.



**Baishideng  
Publishing  
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite  
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA  
**Telephone:** +1-925-399-1568  
**E-mail:** bpgoffice@wjgnet.com  
**<https://www.wjgnet.com>**

## INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

### *Google Search:*

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

### *BPG Search:*

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

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**Reviewer's code:** 02854801

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** FACP, MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Instructor, Professor, Research Fellow

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Greece

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-03-03

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-03-09 00:54

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-03-22 10:17

**Review time:** 13 Days and 9 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	RE-REVIEW	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Peer-Review:
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<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision		<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair		<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision		Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:
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				<input type="checkbox"/> General
				<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
				Conflicts-of-Interest:



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**https://**www.wjgnet.com

☐ Yes

☐ No

#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This study of cytokine/chemokine in PEG-IFN treatment CHB patients is very interesting. The manuscript is very well written. I recommend to accept it for publication as it is. Thank you very much.

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

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

☐ The same title

☐ Duplicate publication

☐ Plagiarism

☐ No

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

☐ The same title

☐ Duplicate publication

☐ Plagiarism

☐ No