

October 19, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 5557-review.doc).

**Title: Review of the pharmacological management of hepatitis B viral infection before and after liver transplantation**

**Author:** Evangelos Cholongitas, George V Papatheodoridis

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 5557

**The manuscript has been modified according to the suggestions of reviewers:**

**1 Format has been updated**

**2 Revisions have been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer (we have extensively revised the text)**

**Reviewer 1**

Comments 1. There are some grammatical errors and typos in the text. Please correct them properly.

We have corrected the typo and grammatical errors.

2. Please make "Conclusion" paragraph at the last of the paper.

We have now included a conclusion paragraph.

## **Reviewer 2**

1st the title should read: Review of the pharmacological management of hepatitis B viral infection before and after liver transplantation. This will make the reader understand the nature of the scientific material that about to be discussed in the article.

We have changed the title of the review according to your suggestion

2nd, the abstract should state the type of the presentation, the aims and goals that the authors wanted to achieve by writing this paper. They should state the importance of their review and the importance of the review to interested readers. The authors should summarize the method of the literature review as well as include comments about their experience and the methodology that their Institution follows in the management of these cases. Finely, they should reach to conclusion which will be derived from their personal experience and from the literature review or from the expert opinion. The abstract needs to be re-written with attention to the wording and language with use of short and clear sentences that are easy to understand.

We have added information regarding the type and the aim of the review as well as the method of literature review. In addition, we have added a conclusion paragraph at the end of the article summarizing literature data and adding a comment how we manage this group of patients in our centre (the words limitation in the abstract does not allow to provide all these data in the abstract). We re-wrote the abstract and made it clearer using short sentences.

3rd, the introduction has the same problems as the abstract, long sentences, grammatical and spelling errors. It certainly needs to be re-written.

The introduction has been shortened and re-written.

4th, pre-transplant approach, has long introduction about interferon- $\alpha$  (alpha and not alfa) an agent that not in use any more for this particular pathology, so the authors should keep their discussion to current management. Comparing between interferon- $\alpha$  and NAs agents is not valid any more since interferon- $\alpha$  is not in use. The authors used different abbreviations to describe the same terminology and/or kept jumping between the abbreviated terms to the full terms, this need to be corrected (HBV & CHB). The discussion about different antiviral regimens in pre-transplant phase is very confusing, disorganized and too long. The authors need to organize their thoughts before embarking on the writing of the article. It would be better to discuss what is in use in different transplant centers and summarize the pros & cons of each regimen and refer to the scientific literatures with the addition of the authors experience and opinion. When referring to a study multiple times use the author's name as (Smith et al), rather than keep referring to reference number.

We have deleted the data regarding interferon. We have corrected the error regarding abbreviations. We have reduced this section (at almost 1 page) and we have limited the providing data in order to make the text easier to read. For each agent we have provided the pros and cons and at the end we have a conclusion paragraph suggesting the optimal approach based on our experience and current guidelines.

5th The same problems appear in the rest of the paper, a lot of repetitions, too long paragraphs and sentences, very hard to follow and difficult to keep the reader's attention.

We have reduced the length of this section (almost 2 pages) and limited the providing data in order to make the text easier to read. We have re-write most of the paper, reducing its length and using short sentences. We believe that

now it is easier to read

In summary; work on the language, re-write it in more concise version, and work on the organization of the presented material. Very poorly written paper, it requires serious revision before considering it for publication

We have made many changes according to your suggestions in the language all over the text.

### **Reviewer 3**

1)The abstract does not state what kind of article that is. As a suggestion the authors should include a sentence that this is a review article on the management options for CHB. Furthermore, the aim of this review article is not really clear. What is the impact of this article?

We have added this information in the abstract

2)The chapters of the article are mainly too long and somehow too much in detail. The article is therefore hard to read also because a real focus of the article is missing.

We have now shortened the length of the review and deleted several details.

3)Finally a “Conclusion section” is missing, not leaving the reader alone with the question what exactly the importance of this review article will be.

We have added a conclusion paragraph at the end of the article.

4) There are a number of typing errors and the English spelling and grammar needs strong attention at places. Therefore, please check your English carefully possibly with the help of a native English speaker.

We have corrected the typo and grammatical errors

### 3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

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