



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 56665

**Title:** Clinical characteristics and risk factors of liver injury in Coronavirus Disease 2019 patients in Wuhan

**Reviewer's code:** 00058381

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-05-09

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-05-30 14:14

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-05-30 19:32

**Review time:** 5 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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

**Overall Comments:** In spite of drawbacks including the retrospective study design, the limited spectrum of assessed parameters and the lack of data on pre-medication, this evaluation provides interesting information on liver injury in COVID-19 patients in Wuhan. Of course, the temporal course of the values would also be of interest.

**Specific Comments:** The "Core Tip" should be improved. "Statistical Analysis": "Univariate analysis was used to analyzed clinical and laboratory variances between patients with normal liver function and liver injury" -> Univariate analysis was used to analyze clinical and laboratory variances between patients with normal liver function and liver injury.

"Results": "The median age for all patients was 50.1 (range 22-91) years old" -> The median age for all patients was 50.1 (range 22-91) years. Table 2: "PTA: prothrombin active"?

**Reference list:** The format of some references is not consistent with the guidelines of the journal.



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 56665

**Title:** Clinical characteristics and risk factors of liver injury in Coronavirus Disease 2019 patients in Wuhan

**Reviewer's code:** 00053419

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-05-09

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-05-31 16:28

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-06-04 11:41

**Review time:** 3 Days and 19 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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

The present study by Zhang et al is aimed to analyze clinical variables regarding liver injury in COVID-19 patients. The manuscript has been clearly written, easy to follow and present valuable evidences that are worth to be shared with the community. However, the study has important limitations as have been well identified and indicated in the text. It would be interesting to assess whether these patients had any liver complication before SARS-CoV-2 infection. Besides, since liver disease patients are significantly older, it should be discussed whether the increased incidence of, for instance, coexisting diseases, could result from the different age range among groups.



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 56665

**Title:** Clinical characteristics and risk factors of liver injury in Coronavirus Disease 2019 patients in Wuhan

**Reviewer's code:** 00225294

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** BM BCh, PhD

**Professional title:** Doctor, Professor, Senior Research Fellow

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-05-09

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-05-29 11:09

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-06-07 08:42

**Review time:** 8 Days and 21 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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

The manuscript details the liver injury markers of a short cohort of COVID-19 patients from the Wuhan region. The number of patients is reduced (218), but the analysis is well presented. The data support the view of a link between worse liver function and hematologic alterations. The panel of markers is sufficient; however, if a time course of the evolution could be obtained, this would benefit a better follow-up and a more direct correlation between liver injury and disease progression. Also, it is remarkable that the liver injury markers, although elevated, are not associated to a serious liver injury. The analysis of sex distribution fits into what is known on COVID-19 aggravation and is probably reflecting a link between the viremia outcome and liver injury. It remains to be established the mechanisms by which SARS-CoV2 is promoting this liver injury and how it correlates with other serum markers (kidney, heart, etc.)



### PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 56665

**Title:** Clinical characteristics and risk factors of liver injury in Coronavirus Disease 2019 patients in Wuhan

**Reviewer's code:** 00068278

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-05-09

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-05-29 04:18

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-06-09 09:50

**Review time:** 11 Days and 5 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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

Needs minor language polishing. example; Univariate analysis was used to analyzed clinical and laboratory ....; Univariate analysis was used to analyze clinical and laboratory .... It is a research documenting the effects of COVID-19 infection on the liver. It has been shown that liver injury is more common in patients with more severe disease. It was found that male sex, high D-dimer levels and neutrophil precentages might be important predictors of liver injury with COVID-19. The discussion on possible mechanisms is satisfactory. However, it would be more infromative if the effect of oxygen saturation (may be low in patients with lung involvement) was also evaluated.



## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 56665

**Title:** Clinical characteristics and risk factors of liver injury in Coronavirus Disease 2019 patients in Wuhan

**Reviewer's code:** 00068278

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-05-09

**Reviewer chosen by:** Le Zhang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-07-15 13:02

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-07-16 10:46

**Review time:** 21 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



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It is better that the first edition now.



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

**Manuscript NO:** 56665

**Title:** Clinical characteristics and risk factors of liver injury in Coronavirus Disease 2019 patients in Wuhan

**Reviewer's code:** 00225294

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** BM BCh, PhD

**Professional title:** Doctor, Professor, Senior Research Fellow

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-05-09

**Reviewer chosen by:** Le Zhang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-07-16 10:48

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-07-16 17:15

**Review time:** 6 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

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Authors provided the requested information. Now, the work is more comprehensible and of general interest in the area. The title and the content well fits into the expected information for potential readers.