

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 65599

Title: Serum hepatitis B core-related antigen as a surrogate marker of hepatitis B e antigen seroconversion in chronic hepatitis B

Reviewer's code: 00032619

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Turkey

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-03-11

Reviewer chosen by: Jin-Lei Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-03-16 06:01

Reviewer performed review: 2021-03-16 06:46

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<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
Conclusion	<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
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	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

All included patients with HBV are genotyp C and B, therefore study should be evaluated in the other genotype such as D.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 65599

Title: Serum hepatitis B core-related antigen as a surrogate marker of hepatitis B e antigen seroconversion in chronic hepatitis B

Reviewer's code: 05230210

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Egypt

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-03-11

Reviewer chosen by: Jin-Lei Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-03-15 07:11

Reviewer performed review: 2021-03-18 19:49

Review time: 3 Days and 12 Hours

Scientific quality	<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
Language quality	<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
Conclusion	<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
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	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

I would like to thank the authors for their clear and detailed presentation of the topic.

Overall: • Language is good • The study is presented clearly, and results are well presented by figures and table. But the idea is not new, and has been studied before.

Title: Good and relevant Abstract: • Many abbreviations in the abstract that were not explained in the first time of being written, and even in the (core tip). Introduction:

• I think the authors should add a part about the pgRNA and its relation to cccDNA , as it is an important element of the study. Also they haven't mention its full name(pregenomic RNA) before abbreviation. Methods and results: • Could the

authors please explain, why no correlation of HBcrAg with degree of inflammation or fibrosis in liver biopsy was presented? or any data about liver biopsy presented? •

Could the authors please explain the absent correlation with clinical data and laboratory markers as liver enzymes and CBC? Discussion: Discussion should include the studies

done in the same aim (presented in the comment on the references) Conclusion: clearly presented References: Some references important to mention as they presented the

same aim of this study (literature review on the main topic), the discussion will benefit from their results presentation • Wang, L.; Cao, X.; Wang, Z.; Gao, Y.; Deng, J.; Liu, X.;

Zhuang, H. Correlation of HBcrAg with Intrahepatic Hepatitis B Virus Total DNA and Covalently Closed Circular DNA in HBeAg-Positive Chronic Hepatitis B Patients. J. Clin.

Microbiol. 2019, 57. [CrossRef] • Wong, D.K.; Seto, W.K.; Cheung, K.S.; Chong, C.K.; Huang, F.Y.; Fung, J.; Lai, C.L.; Yuen, M.F. Hepatitis B virus core-related antigen as a

surrogate marker for covalently closed circular DNA. Liver Int. 2017, 37, 995–1001. [CrossRef] [PubMed] • Chen, E.Q.; Feng, S.; Wang, M.L.; Liang, L.B.; Zhou, L.Y.; Du,

L.Y.; Yan, L.B.; Tao, C.M.; Tang, H. Serum hepatitis B core-related antigen is a satisfactory surrogate marker of intrahepatic covalently closed circular DNA in chronic



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