

Dear editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 6663-review.doc)

Title: Cellular and molecular mechanisms in the pathogenesis of liver fibrosis: an update

Author: Gülsüm Özlem Elpek

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6663

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions:

1. Format has been updated. First of all, because you invited me to design my manuscript based on current progress in research in the relevant field, I extensively searched the literature once again and I included new substantial findings in the manuscript. Therefore I tried to emphasize new data and simplified the former basic findings about the cellular and molecular pathogenesis of liver fibrosis. Depending on these revisions many references in the submitted form of the manuscript have been removed and replaced by new ones. In the title page a running title is provided and author name is given first followed by the complete name of institution, city, province and postcode.

The abstract section is rearranged depending on the major revisions (see below). In the same page a core tip is written. You cited that for the figures, decomposable ones are required and it can be made by ppt. I am sending you all figures as separate ppt files. All abbreviations appearing in figures are also listed in the corresponding legend.

According to the policy for manuscripts submitted by non-native speakers of English, the language of the revised form of my manuscript is edited by nature language editing group (the certificate is attached).

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

Reviewer 1:

1. It is stated that the correction of the title of the manuscript as " Cellular and molecular mechanisms in the pathogenesis of liver **fibrosis**: an update " might be more accurate. Therefore the title has been changed as proposed.
2. It is criticized that different etiologies, such as hepatitis, alcohol etc lead to the fibrogenesis by different mechanisms. The mechanisms resulting from different etiologies should be discussed. These mechanisms have been briefly discussed under the new section "PATHOGENESIS OF FIBROSIS ASSOCIATED WITH VARIOUS ETIOLOGIES" This section involves alcoholic liver disease, non-alcoholic liver disease/steatohepatitis and viral hepatitis.
3. It is noted that some flaws should be corrected. The statements such "hepatic stellate cells" and "hepatic stellate cell" are abbreviated as HSCs and HSC from their first appearance in the manuscript, respectively.

4. It is criticized that the manuscript is poorly written and highly repetitive. Moreover, it is suggested that the manuscript could be shortened at least 10%. Accordingly data that are described separately in the first section ("the role of extracellular matrix in liver fibrosis") have been assembled and simplified. Besides third section "ECM degradation in liver fibrosis" has been also included in this section and the title has been changed as "ECM IN LIVER FIBROSIS". Similarly the section "cell types involved in ECM production during liver fibrosis" have been simplified to avoid repetition and title has been changed as "CELL TYPES INVOLVED IN THE PATHOGENESIS OF LIVER FIBROSIS". Liver sinusoidal cells that are described briefly under this section have been moved to "HSC activation" section and simplified.
5. Typographical/grammatical errors have been corrected.

Reviewer 2 :

1. Similar to first referee it is stated that the mechanisms resulting from different etiologies should be discussed. Therefore these mechanisms have been briefly discussed under the new section "PATHOGENESIS OF FIBROSIS ASSOCIATED WITH VARIOUS ETIOLOGIES" This section involves alcoholic liver disease, non-alcoholic liver disease/steatohepatitis and viral hepatitis.
2. It is criticized that the information about HSC activation is insufficient. More detailed information about ROS, TLR, chemotaxis should be included. Therefore these sections revised and ameliorated with new findings.
3. Typographical/grammatical errors have been corrected

Reviewer 3:

1. Typographical/grammatical errors have been corrected

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

Sincerely yours,



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