

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 75777

Title: Hepatocellular Carcinoma, HCV infection and miRNA Involvement: Perspectives for New Therapeutic Approaches

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 02539765

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: India

Author's Country/Territory: Italy

Manuscript submission date: 2022-02-16

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-02-17 08:06

Reviewer performed review: 2022-02-24 06:43

Review time: 6 Days and 22 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 Grade E: Do not publish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="radio"/>] Anonymous [<input type="radio"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="radio"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a difficult review on a topic that is still evolving. The authors have done a good job of reviewing the subject. I have only few suggestions and comments. The review is primarily descriptive; hence, adding critical comments on the existing literature would be helpful. There is too much general information about HCV infection, including treatment, that appears to be out of context with the review's title (miRNA). Therefore, it would be worth thinking about condensing the general information. Kindly consider adding some schematic figures depicting the role of miRNA in HCC in HCV infected patients.

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Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05038376

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Chief Doctor, Professor, Surgeon, Surgical Oncologist

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Italy

Manuscript submission date: 2022-02-16

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-02-17 00:33

Reviewer performed review: 2022-02-27 13:41

Review time: 10 Days and 13 Hours

Scientific quality	<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
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
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript describes the pathogenesis of HCV-associated HCC, especially in the terms of miRNA. For early diagnosis and treatment of HCC, several targets of miRNA were summarized. 1. The logical order of manuscript needs to be revised. For example, in the section of Hepatocellular carcinoma, authors mention the connection between miRNA and HCC, but fail to make a detailed discussion. 2. Would miRNA be affected by other diseases? When it comes to early diagnosis and treatment of HCC, its specificity would be crucial. 3. Compared to widely used tumor markers, such as AFP, PIVKA-II, the potential advantages of miRNA would be attractive to describe. 4. Maybe a figure would make the content of manuscript clearer.