



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 77596

Title: Nonalcoholic steatohepatitis and Hepatocellular carcinoma- Beyond the boundaries of Liver

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 04213276n

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD, MSc

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Greece

Author's Country/Territory: India

Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-08

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-05-22 09:44

Reviewer performed review: 2022-05-22 10:12

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 Grade E: Do not publish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 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



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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
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The author delves further into subjects that were summarily investigated in the original manuscript, such as the molecular characteristics of NAFLD-related HCC, the effect of environmental pollutants and diabetes medication. However, The points raised by this letter are not clearly defined. Apart from the question regarding the frequency of MRI screening in patients that cannot be evaluated with US, the author does not raise specific points and does not offer any alternate recommendations. Suggestions from the author regarding real-life use of these findings would greatly boost the chances of this letter being published.

Reply

In NASH-HCC abbreviated MRI as a screening tool for HCC is not a practical solution as it will involve issues related to availability, cost, when during the clinical course of NASH screening for HCC should be indicated and how frequently should it be repeated. Additionally, metabolic syndrome, diabetes and obesity are risk factors for other cancers also. Taking a holistic approach, we must look towards molecular signatures in large population-based studies across different geographical regions for screening carcinomas at different sites in body. This will reduce the cost and improve the compliance of patients.



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Reviewer's code: 05038583

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United States

Author's Country/Territory: India

Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-08

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-05-24 13:28

Reviewer performed review: 2022-05-24 14:07

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Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

General comment This is a letter to the editor of the article published by Chrysavgis et al. From the literature and this peer reviewer's clinical experience. It is crucial to recognize NASH and HCC risks. Unfortunately, the current guideline does not recommend HCC surveillance in NASH patients without advanced fibrosis. I agree with the concern raised by these authors. Cost-effectiveness is a serious concern in implementing screening and surveillance guidelines. The proposed algorithm may not be appropriate to implement from this perspective. I agree with the comments on the need for cancer screening strategies for different carcinoma at once, but I am not sure if the author of the original article can conclude this based on current studies. It is also ideal to recommend multidisciplinary approaches for NAFLD/NASH patients, but it may be challenging to implement due to cost concerns and the number of patients we have with NAFLD/NASH. Minor comment "etc." should be avoided in an academic paper.

Reply

Accepted the points.



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Reviewer's code: 03845518

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Greece

Author's Country/Territory: India

Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-08

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

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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
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting letter to the Editor on an important topic. Could the authors please respond to the following questions: 1) The paper could benefit from significant editorial language assistance 2) The authors mention the value of molecular screening. They may wish to briefly discuss the challenges involved with that strategy 3) The authors although they discuss a multi-prong strategy, they do not mention bariatric surgery and its potential. They should also consider mentioning liver transplantation

Reply

- 1) Point accepted.
- 2) The challenges involved are large population-based studies in different geographical regions, mapping of molecular signatures and implementation. It has to be cost effective, readily available and easily accessible.
- 3) The review has focused on strategies for risk stratification, screening and surveillance strategies. The bariatric surgery focuses on management in NASH and prevention of HCC.
- 4) Point accepted.



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Reviewer's code: 03647881

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Attending Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Taiwan

Author's Country/Territory: India

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Reviewer performed review: 2022-05-28 00:32

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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
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

No comments