

Name of journal: World Journal of Transplantation

Manuscript NO.: 55038

Dear Editor,

Dear reviewers,

Thank you for your time to revise our Manuscript NO: 55038, ABO-incompatible liver transplantation from a deceased donor and clinical outcomes following antibody rebound: a case report.

Authors: Milena Peruhova, Viktoriya Georgieva, Nonka Turukova, Monika Sekulovska, Gabriela Panayotova, Antoaneta Mihova, Velislava Terzieva and Tsvetelina Veselinova Velikova

We take into account all the comments and suggestions.

Reviewer 1. No. 00005191

The manuscript is well researched and well written. However, it does not add much to what we know from the literature since the 80s regarding ABO incompatible liver transplantation. Nonetheless, it still bears interest for the transplant audience because it reports on a case where all the available therapeutic tools have been utilized to prevent an antibody-mediated rejection. Therefore, the case report bears value.

- Thank you for your time and overall positive evaluation of the manuscript.
- We support the referee's assertion that the topic of ABO-incompatible liver transplantation is not enriched with novel articles recently. However, we believe that this paper we share our experience of using all available therapeutic modalities to prevent an antibody-mediated rejection; thus, it will gain attention in the transplant-oriented audience. Nevertheless, to our knowledge, this is the first report on such a case from Bulgaria and the region.

I would suggest deleting Figure 1, as it is not necessary, and substituting Figure 2 with a better one. After this minor revision, the paper can be published.

- Thank you for the valuable note. We removed Figure 1 and replaced Figure 2 with two new pictures, which are more qualitative and informative, called:
- Figure 1. MRCP showing intrahepatic bile ducts with biliary leakage from the biliary anastomosis
- Figure 2. MRI (T2W\_TSE sequence) showing the perihepatic abscess

Reviewer 2. No. 02840182

You wrote that you performed ABO-incompatible transplantation in your article. Donor o + receiver AB is called not ABO identical. On the other hand, you wrote that AB antibodies developed in the recipient. You should clarify your identification.

- Thank you for the valuable remark. We acknowledge not being correct when using the ABO compatibility terms. In the clinical case presented by us, the donor is blood group O, and the recipient is AB. This type of liver transplant is called compatible but not identical. In support of the above, we put the definition and some notes on compatible and incompatible liver transplantation in the introduction to clarify the terms.
- We have corrected the title and all passages in the text regarding this issue. You can follow-up on the changes via track changes.

1) Science Editor: Recommend for potential acceptance. 1 Scientific quality: The manuscript is a case report of ABO-incompatible liver transplantation. The topic is in the scope of WJT. (1) Classification: 2C. (2) Summary of the peer-review report: The manuscript is well researched and well written. However, it does not add much to what we know from the literature. Nonetheless, it still bears interest for the transplant audience. The case report bears value. After minor revision, the paper can be published. There is an error in the terminology which authors have used. (3) Format: One table and two figures. Twenty-eight references were cited, including nine references published in the last three years. **No self-citation.** 2 Language evaluation: 2B. Language editing certificate was provided by an expert. 3 Academic norms and rules: The authors provided CARE Checklist–2016. The authors signed the conflict-of-interest disclosure form and copyright license

agreement. The written informed consent was provided. No academic misconduct was found in the CrossCheck investigation and the Bing search. 4 Supplementary comments: (1) Invited manuscript. (2) Without financial support. (3) Corresponding author has published one article in WJG.

- Thank you for your time and overall positive evaluation of the manuscript. The notes from the reviewers are addressed above.
- We have cited two of our papers related to the subject:
  - 12. TERZIEVA V, Velikova T, Mihova A, Uzunova Y, et al. The Importance of Regulatory T Cells for the Tolerance Maintaining After Liver Transplantation. *M J Immu.* 2018; 2(1): 007.
  - 13. TERZIEVA V, Mihova A, Altankova I, et al. The Dynamic Changes in Soluble CD30 and Regulatory T Cells Before and After Solid Organ Transplantations: A Pilot Study. *Monoclon Antib Immunodiagn Immunother.* 2019; 38(4): 137-144 [PMID: 31361582 DOI: 10.1089/mab.2019.0010].

2) Editorial Office Director: Recommend for potential acceptance. 1 Scientific quality: I have checked the comments written by the science editor. I basically agree with the science editor. The topic of “liver transplantation” is in the scope of WJT. Reviewer#02840182 pointed out this manuscript is well researched and well written. This manuscript bears interest for the transplant audience because it reports on a case where all the available therapeutic tools have been utilized to prevent an antibody-mediated rejection. Reviewer#00005191 pointed out there is an error in the terminology which authors have used. **First authors should give a justified explanation for the reviewer’s evaluation. There are 2 figures and 1 table in the manuscript.** Twenty-eight references were cited, including nine references published in the last three years. **No self-citation, we suggest the authors to cite their own research results.** 2 Language evaluation: I agree with the comments written by the science editor. The authors provided a personal language certificate. 3 Academic norms and rules: I have checked the documents including the conflict-of-interest disclosure form, copyright license agreement, informed consent statement and CARE checklist file, which are qualified. No academic misconduct was found in the CrossCheck investigation and the Bing search. 4 Supplementary comments: (1) Invited manuscript. (2) Without financial support. (3) Corresponding author has published one article in WJG. (4) Corresponding author is

the editorial board member of World Journal of Immunology. (5) **The authors need to provide an editable manuscript of Word format.**

- Thank you for your time and overall positive evaluation of the manuscript. All comments, remarks, and notes from the reviewers are addressed above. We correct the terms in the text accordingly.
- We have changed the figures with new ones, as Reviewer 1 suggested, and the number of figures in the text remains two.
- We have cited our previous published research on the topic as 12 and 13 in the reference list.
- The revised version of the manuscript is provided as an editable Word format where all changes during revision could be followed-up.

3) Company Editor-in-Chief: I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, the full text of the manuscript and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted with minor revisions.

- Thank you for your time and overall positive evaluation of the manuscript. All comments, remarks, and notes from the reviewers are addressed above. We correct the terms in the text accordingly.

We would like to make a change to one of the names of our authors – in the system is Nonka Turukova, but her name is **Nonka Yurukova**.