



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 55188

Title: Management of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease in the Middle East

Reviewer's code: 01805809

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United States

Author's Country/Territory: United Arab Emirates

Manuscript submission date: 2020-03-05

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-03-05 13:05

Reviewer performed review: 2020-03-06 14:41

Review time: 1 Day and 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



**Baishideng
Publishing
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA
Telephone: +1-925-399-1568
E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
https://www.wjgnet.com

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This paper is a narrative review on key facts about the epidemiology, natural history, diagnosis, and management of NAFLD as these relate to the Middle East region, discussed at the regional level by expert panels. The paper is well written, and rather heavy on numbers, making the first part a bit difficult to read. Of note, the Introduction states (second paragraph) that there will be one 1 million individuals with NAFLD in Saudi Arabia, which does not seem correct. The country has 34M inhabitants, and 1M would yield approx. 3% of its population, while NAFLD prevalence is generally quoted to exceed 30% with NASH alone exceeding 4%. Please double check your arithmetics.

The paper does a good job in summarizing current advances in the diagnostic and treatment of NAFLD, but there is very little written about how the NAFLD epidemic may have specific issues in the Middle East region. Other than discussing 2 papers on the impact of bariatric surgery in NAFLD originating from Saudi Arabia and the UAE, and a Saudi survey on liver transplantation (2001 to 2006), the reader is left with no information on how regional experts may see ways to fight the epidemic, initiate locally important measures in terms of lifestyle, diet, patient education, clinician awareness, diagnostic capabilities, etc. In other words, there is no action plan or at least an attempt to envision what could be done in the region apparently most severely hit by this growing problem. Having any or all these challenges and opportunities addressed would make the paper all the more important as a resource for the academic and practitioner community.



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 55188

Title: Management of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease in the Middle East

Reviewer's code: 00037028

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: PharmD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United States

Author's Country/Territory: United Arab Emirates

Manuscript submission date: 2020-03-05

Reviewer chosen by: Jin-Zhou Tang (Quit in 2020)

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-03-26 18:50

Reviewer performed review: 2020-03-26 19:33

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent [] Grade B: Very good [] Grade C: Good [] Grade D: Fair [] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing [] Grade B: Minor language polishing [] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[] Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) [] Minor revision [] Major revision [] Rejection
Re-review	[] Yes [] No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous [] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Excellent review