

May 3rd, 2020

Re: Manuscript No. 02734287

Dear Editor,

thank you for your letter and the possibility of resubmitting our revised manuscript titled "**Liver transplantation and aging**" for consideration for publication in the *World Journal of Transplantation*.

We have carefully considered the reviewers' comments, and we have revised the manuscript accordingly. The changes are marked **in red** in the revised version of the manuscript. Please find the answers to specific reviewers' comments below:

**Reviewer #1:**

*Scientific Quality: Grade D (Fair)*

*Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)*

*Conclusion: Major revision*

*Specific Comments to Authors: 1. Title & manuscript are not coherent, as manuscript summarizes the recent developments rather than safety / morbidity of transplant in elderly 2. Its not clear whether the authors are trying to address the age limitations or disease limitations of liver transplant 3. Introduction ends with a bias, "With the scarcity of organs for transplantation in mind, transplant procedures in elderly population need to be carefully weighed up against possible alternative treatments." 4. Discussion on the individual condition does not focus on the actual survival / risk benefit of liver transplant in elderly 5. Conclusion does not point out the age limit of liver transplant, which the title implies 6. Conclusion is more elaborate rather than pointing out the take home message crisply 7. Table is a repeat summary of the discussion, without data of the patients (age, morbidity, outcome,etc).*

1-2. In an attempt to better address the issues of risk, benefit, safety and morbidity of LT in the elderly, a new section reviewing the literature dealing with these important topics was added to the manuscript titled "**Risks and benefits of LT in the elderly**", pages 4-5.

3. The ending part of the Introduction is now modified in order to avoid the bias and we hope that it now better reflects the contents of the sections of the paper.

2, 5. The authors' idea was not to provide a definite answer as to what the exact age limit for LT is. The question in the title was therefore meant to be more of a rhetorical one. In the new section on the risks and benefits of LT in the elderly, more attention is given to the elements that should guide the physicians when making the decisions on age limits in a particular LT center or for a particular recipient. To avoid confusion and implication that the paper puts forward a specific age limit, we omitted the question "is there a limit?" from the title in the revised manuscript.

6 Conclusion was modified in an attempt to better emphasize the take-home message.

7. We agree with you comment, and we have omitted the table.

**Reviewer #2:**

*Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)*

*Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)*

*Conclusion: Accept (General priority)*

*Specific Comments to Authors: this is an interesting study topic, actually, the age of recipient is increasing followed with medical development. several things needs to be pointed out 1. study on elder donor should be reviewed, 2. change on trend of treatment (surgical? medical? drug?) on elder patients.*

1. A new section dealing with liver donation in elderly age was added to the manuscript, pages 12-13, and hopefully we have improved the missing part on donor data as suggested by the reviewer.

2. More detailed discussion on various important aspects of treatment of elderly patients with LT is given in the new section titled "Risks and benefits of LT in the elderly", pages 5-6.

We corrected several typos and additionally revised the manuscript for grammar and language, which now hopefully meets the language requirements.

We are grateful to the reviewers for their valuable comments and suggestions. We hope that we have improved the consistency, clarity and interpretation of data in the manuscript and that the revised version will meet the reviewers' requirements and be suitable for publication in the World Journal of Transplantation.

Thank you again for the privilege of submitting our work to World Journal of Transplantation.

Sincerely,

Anna Mrzljak, MD, PhD, FEBGH