



### PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**Manuscript NO:** 59251

**Title:** Occult hepatitis C virus infection in the Middle East and Eastern Mediterranean countries: A systematic review and meta-analysis

**Reviewer's code:** 05077656

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MBChB, MD, MSc, PhD

**Professional title:** Doctor, Lecturer

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Germany

**Author's Country/Territory:** Iran

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-10-12

**Reviewer chosen by:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-11-03 09:38

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-11-03 10:33

**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<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
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The most valuable aspect of this work is, in my opinion, is the lack of such kind of meta-analysis study about this region. Despite the limitation being in most of studies from Egypt and Iran. I think the abstract has to be shortened. (Detailed review attached as a pdf)