

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 59965

Title: The clinic-pathological features of MAFLD (Metabolic associated fatty liver disease) with HBV infection

Reviewer's code: 03976790

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: DSc, PhD

Professional title: Emeritus Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: France

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2020-10-09

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ping Yan

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-11-04 16:10

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Review time: 4 Days and 16 Hours

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 Grade E: Do not publish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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input 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
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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Comments on the manuscript: “The clinic-pathological features of MAFLD with HBV infection” Metabolic associated fatty liver disease (MAFLD) is a concept different from non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD). Contrarily to NAFLD, the diagnosis of MAFLD does not require neither the exclusion of excessive alcohol intake nor other chronic liver diseases comprising HBV infection. Hepatitis B virus infection being very common, HBV-MAFLD could be considered as an important subtype of MAFLD with its own specificities. The aim of this work was to search if the HBV-MALFD patients presented such specificities. For that, the authors compared 417 patients with MAFLD and HBV-MAFLD. MAFLD diagnostic was based on histopathology, body mass index $\geq 23\text{kg/m}^2$, diabetes mellitus or metabolic dysregulation. Patients were divided into MAFLD group (HBsAg negative) and HBV-MAFLD group (HBsAg positive). Several characteristics were determined on biopsies. This study is useful, but it needs some improvements before considering its publication n Pages 5 and 6. Liver biopsy: -

What was the fixative used? - After the paraffin embedding, how was the cut made?
- How thick were the sections? Page 6. Laboratory measurements: - specify which methods were used for these measurements. - -in the event that kits were used, specify which kits were. Page 7: “After PSM, 58 pairs were successfully matched with no significant differences founded in gender”: - give PSM (Propensity Score matching) in the abbreviations. - In Table 1, do the characteristics relate only to men or to both men and women: it is not clear. Please specify it in the text and the legend.
-Table 1: several details would be useful to understand the data given in the table: -
Add the number and characteristics of females. - For age, specify in the legend if it is the addition of males and females. - For all biological characteristics, specify in the legend if it is the addition of both males and females, and if all ages are included

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 59965

Title: The clinic-pathological features of MAFLD (Metabolic associated fatty liver disease) with HBV infection

Reviewer's code: 02522427

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MBChB, MD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Saudi Arabia

Author's Country/Territory: China

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Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ping Yan

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Review time: 8 Days and 12 Hours

Scientific quality	<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
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

General comments: The article is written in a good scientific language. IT also vary good in addressing the new terminology and definition of association of fatty liver disease with other chronic liver disease. The title it will be better to address that that article had examined patients with chronic hepatitis B infection, so to make it clear for the readers that patients with acute CHB were not included. As an example.....MAFLD in association with Chronic hepatitis B infection. On the other hand MAFLD is better defined in the title as it is relatively new terminology that yet is not commonly used The introduction is really brief but u to the point. The method section is detailed and very well written and figure 1 can be deleted as it is very well explained in the method text. The result section is well written and clear in explaining the study findings. Tables and Figure 2 are also clear and self explained. The discussion section is brief> In the view of the high and increasing global prevalence of Metabolic associated liver disease: the discussion section to more elaborative and explanatory about the importance of this study findings. The limitation of the study, I think the number of patients is acceptable. However this study may need to be repeated in other populations that have higher prevalence of obesity and metabolic syndromes.