September 16, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: WJG_13147_REVISION).

**Title:** Similar efficacy and safety of tenofovir in Asians and non-Asians with CHB

**Author:** Calvin Q. Pan, Sing Chan, Huy Trinh, Alan Yao, Ho Bae, Lillian Lou

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 13147

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1. Format has been updated in line with editorial comments.

2. Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer. Changes are marked in red:

(1) Reviewer comment *"The histology improvement is a significant information. Consider including it as a secondary end-point of the study."* Page 3.

Change in liver histology has been added as a secondary endpoint in the abstract, and has been moved to the secondary endpoint section of the Results.

(2) Reviewer comment *"Consider clarification"*. Page 8.

Details of parameters suggestive of worsening hepatic function have been added to the Methods (Safety and tolerability) section as requested.

(3) Reviewer comment *"Consider use of "baseline viral load" or "pre-treatment viral load".* Page 14

'Baseline viral load' has been used as suggested.

(4) Reviewer comment *"Clarify is these patients were HBeAg-positive or negative."* Page 15.

The HBeAg status of the non-Asian patients showing HBsAg loss/seroconversion has been clarified as requested.

(5) Reviewer comment *"These data are from other trial. Avoid making conclusion based on the data from previously published studies. In your trial, you have only data up to 48 wekks of treatment, that can not be characterized as "long-term"*. Page 15.

The sentence highlighted by the reviewer has been deleted.

(6) Reviewer comment *"Mention the 48-weeks period."* Page 15.

"over the first 48 weeks of treatment" has been added to the summary.

(7) Reviewer comment "*However, the authors are to ask to revise /correct the figure (336 weeks) in the following phase:*

*These two studies each consisted of a double-blind phase in which HBeAg-negative (Study 102) and HBeAg-positive (Study 103) patients were randomized (2:1) to receive either TDF 300 mg or adefovir dipivoxil 10 mg orally once daily for 48 weeks, followed by an open-label extension phase with TDF <u>for an additional 336 weeks</u>.*"

This has been changed to "for up to 7 more years" as used in the original publication (Marcellin et al. NEJM 2008)

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology.*

Sincerely yours,

Calvin Q. Pan M.D.

Professor of Medicine

Division of Gastroenterology, Department of Medicine

NYU Langone Medical Center, NYU School of Medicine

132-21 Forty First Ave, Flushing, New York, 11355 USA

Tel: +1-718-888-7728

Email: cpan11355@yahoo.com