



BAISHIDENG PUBLISHING GROUP INC

8226 Regency Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA

Telephone: +1-925-223-8242 Fax: +1-925-223-8243

E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com <http://www.wjgnet.com>

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Hepatology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 24415

Manuscript Type: Review

First, thanks for all the valuable comments of the peer-reviewers, we will give the explanation in the following part to the questions raised by reviewers.

Response to reviewer No 02444960:

We have carefully revised the grammar and spelling mistakes, and we have modified the tables presented in the manuscript to make it easily understood.

Response to reviewer 02444774:

First, thanks for the constructive comments on the presentation pattern of tables in the manuscript. We have intended to breakdown some information into column, however, some studies did not reported 5-year survival rate, some studies reported 1, 2, 3, 5-year survival rate, considering the variation of effect index, it was difficult for us to breakdown these information into column, in addition, we put the survival rates between two groups together in order to give direct comparison for readers.

Second, the reviewer suggested that we may group the prognostic factors together and indicated the studies supporting these factors. This is a indeed better pattern for presentation of prognostic factors, however, we found that the same index in different studies were expressed diversely. For instance, the HCC stage was an independent factors of survival, the most common staging system is BCLC staging system, the studies by investigators of Japan reported

HCC stage of liver cancer group of Japan, which made it difficult to group the same factor together.