

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

April 22, 2016



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 25787-review.doc).

Title: Epidemiology of hepatitis E virus in Iran

Author: Reza Taherkhani and Fatemeh Farshadpour

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 25787

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

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer.

We greatly appreciated the reviewers' comments. The point-to-point responses to comments were shown as follows:

(1) Reviewer 00070635

The article "Epidemiology of hepatitis E virus in Iran" by Fatemeh Farshadpour, attempts to provide an overview regarding the epidemiology of hepatitis E in different regions and different populations group in Iran, and to address the epidemiologic gaps in understanding of HEV infection in public health concern.

The authors begin the article with a general instructive background (introduction), cover the main aspects and identifies some relevant changes that have occurred regarding the HEV infection worldwide using several appropriate references. This section contribute to the overall understanding the subject, make the article idea clearly visible to the reader and well explains the importance of the current article in understanding the burden of HEV infection in Iran.

The second part of the article summarizes the main findings of previous studies regarding HEV epidemiology in Iran in the general population and in five different risk groups (Blood donors, injected drug users, hemodialysis patients, patients infected with others hepatitis viruses, immunosuppressed patients). Each part well describes the current status (seroprevalence) of HEV infection at the specific group, including prevalent risk factors, routes of transmission and related clinical background data. The authors also give their comments to the related results, referee to similar previous studies in other countries and make a good comparison between Iran and other states regarding HEV status. The author conclude that despite the current data regarding HEV in the Iranian populations there are still a gaps where additional researches is needed in order to optimize the control and prevention of HEV infection in Iran.

In my view, the "PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF HEV INFECTION" paragraph should be a part in the introduction section.

Over all, I found that the authors provide a high quality of review and give a substantial amount of data help to understand better the current epidemiology status of hepatitis E virus in Iran. The authors also suggest areas where additional research findings will assist in understanding the current issue. General speaking, it is a very in depth review study, well written and well organized.

Response: Thank you very much for the positive comments and excellent suggestion. This section (PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF HEV INFECTION) was put at the introduction section and shown in blue color.

(2) Reviewer 00506513

This review well summarize current status (seroprevalence) of HEV infection in Iran. Especially, the relationship between clinical background and the infection describe in detail.

Response: Thank you very much for your review and the positive comment.

Please provide language a certificate letter from a professional English language editing company (Classification of the manuscript language quality evaluation is B).

Response: The manuscript was edited for proper English language, grammar, punctuation,

and spelling by Professor Saeed Tajbakhsh at Bushehr University of Medical Sciences. All changes and corrections are shown in red color in the manuscript. A certificate with his signature was attached.

Please read the core tip then provide the audio core tip:

Acceptable file formats: .mp3, .wav, or .aiff

Maximum file size: 10 MB

To achieve the best quality, don't allow to have the noise.

Response: Audio core tip was attached.

All figures, tables and legends should not be in the main text. They should be put at the end of this paper.

Response: The table was put at the end of manuscript.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'f.farshadpour', with a stylized flourish above it.

Fatemeh Farshadpour, Ph.D,
Department of Microbiology and Parasitology
School of Medicine
Bushehr University of Medical Sciences 7514633341
Bushehr, Iran.
00989171712653
E-mail: f.farshadpour@yahoo.com