



## 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](mailto:bpgoffice@wjgnet.com)

<http://www.wjgnet.com>

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### ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 30518

**Title:** Substantial necrosis is prognostic in fulminant liver failure

**Reviewer's code:** 02445121

#### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This paper evaluated if any association existed between the extent of hepatic necrosis and patient survival through observing the data resulted from 37 patients with fulminant liver failure, whose liver biopsy exhibited substantial necrosis. It was found that transplant-free survival was worse in patients with a higher extent of necrosis (40%, 71.4% and 100% in groups with necrosis of 76-100%, 51-75% and 26-50%, respectively). So, the author concluded that adequate liver biopsy with more than 75% necrosis is associated with significant transplant-free mortality that is critical in predicting survival. This study has some scientific and clinic significances. Major point: It is suggested that the author should add or provide the following data, including INR, ascites, bacterial infection, and the relationship between them and liver necrosis area, and the impact of these indicators on the prognosis of the disease.

#### RESPONSE TO REVIEWER

Thank you for your suggestion. We have addressed this comment by adding a two-paragraph section (Ascites, INR, bacterial infection, and hepatic necrosis) under Results and a table (Table 1) to provide this clinical data.