Comments and Responses to reviewers

Dear Editors.

We very much appreciate the appropriate and thoughtful comments of the reviewers. In response, we have made changes and polished the language and the manuscript has improved accordingly.

The comment by reviewer (58872) about "the role of protein overload in determining HE..." was addressed both in the 2^{nd} and 4^{th} (20 g protein natural meal) paragraphs in the discussion section (highlighted) and the suggested reference was included (No.39.- Tarantino G...).

The word "uncompensated" cirrhosis was changed to "decompensated" cirrhosis as suggested by reviewer No. 2861208 and all the figures were re-drawn.

Grammar and spelling changes were done by one of the senior authors (*Prof. Neil McIntyre*) who is native English speaker. (Reviewer 2540430)

This new version was revised and corrected by Prof. Neil McIntyre, one of the senior authors of this article who is an English native speaker.

Sincerely The authors