

June 04, 2013



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 3233-review.doc).

**Title: Validation of the chronic liver disease questionnaire in Serbian patients**

**Author:** Popovic Dj. Dusan, Kovacevic V. Nada, Kisic Tepavcevic B. Darija, Trajkovic Z. Goran, Alempijevic M. Tamara, Spuran M. Milan, Krstic N. Miodrag, Jesic S. Rada, Younossi M. Zobair, Pekmezovic D. Tatjana

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 3233

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

1 Format has been updated

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

**(1)- Reviewer No 02440197:** The manuscript investigated the validation of a chronic liver disease questionnaire in Serbian CLD patients. The study is of clinical significance. There are some questions for the authors:

Question 1: Were the patients undergoing antiretroviral therapy excluded in the study?

Answer 1: We excluded the patients undergoing antiretroviral therapy from the study. This sentence has been put in the section Material and method (at the end of the 1st paragraph).

Question 2: Did viral infection affect the chronic liver disease questionnaire scores?

Answer 2: The CLDQ scores were not influenced by viral infection. The results regarding analysis of etiology-specific scores of CLDQ has been added and described in the Results (Page 7, Section 2). This was followed with appropriate part in Discussion (Page 9, Section 5).

**(2)-Reviewer No 00053419:** The manuscript from Popovic et al reports the validation of a chronic liver disease questionnaire in Serbian patients. Evaluation of health related quality of life is a very relevant issue

as life expectancy for several chronic diseases has increased significantly. Adaptation of a preexisting questionnaire instead of proposing an alternative procedure allows comparison with results from other patient communities allowing cross-cultural validations and future refinements. Following are some minor questions for the authors' consideration: The results require more extensive discussion.

Question 1: Has the responsiveness of the Serbian CLDQ to change over time or after therapy been assessed?

Answer 1: Due to cross-sectional design we tested study participants only at one point in time and therefore we did not assess follow-up data regarding changes over time or after therapy.

Question 2: Did the authors found any correlation with the etiology of the disease? Do viral infections have any impact on the CLDQ score?

Answer 2: The results regarding analysis of etiology-specific scores of CLDQ has been added and described in the Results (Page 7, Section 2). This was followed with appropriate part in Discussion (Page 9, Section 5).

Question 3: The total CLDQ score values indicated in the first sentence of the second paragraph on page 9 should be revised.

Answer 3: We corrected as suggested.

**(3)-Reviewer No 00054986:** Congratulations on your article which is well written and is a good initiative to better understand the repercussions of chronic liver disease on the quality of life of these patients. I have made some suggestions in the manuscript and would request you to improve and expand the results section.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,



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