

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**Manuscript NO:** 32372

**Title:** CD4+ T cells and NK cells: Biomarkers for hepatic fibrosis in HIV/HCV-coinfected patients

**Reviewer's code:** 01221925

**Reviewer's country:** Greece

**Science editor:** Yuan Qi

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| CLASSIFICATION                                    | LANGUAGE EVALUATION   | SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT                          | CONCLUSION   |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent       | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing                 | Google Search:                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> The same title        | <input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing  | <input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair            | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor            |   | [ Y ] No                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision                |
|   |   | BPG Search:                                    |  |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> The same title        |  |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication |  |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism            |  |
|   |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No         |  |

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting paper looking at the potential role of CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells and NK cells as biomarkers for hepatic fibrosis in patients coinfecting with HIV/HCV, who present a therapeutic challenge. Could the authors please respond to the following questions/comments? 1) Regarding the test groups, did the authors consider patients with only HIV and only HCV in terms of their NK and CD 4 T cell expression pattern? 2) Had the HCV positive patients received any treatments (either at the time of the experiment or prior) and which ones? 3) What was the HCV RNA level of these patients? 4) Regarding the level of fibrosis, how many patients were evaluated by biopsy and how many by fibroscan?