

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 36672

**Title:** A global view and clinical utility of hepatitis B surface antigen kinetics in treatment-naïve chronic hepatitis B patients during long-term entecavir therapy

**Reviewer's code:** 03646639

**Reviewer's country:** Japan

**Science editor:** Yuan Qi

**Date sent for review:** 2017-10-18

**Date reviewed:** 2017-10-27

**Review time:** 8 Days

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	BPG Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The paper by Lin et al entitled 'A global view and clinical utility of hepatitis B surface antigen kinetics in treatment-naïve chronic hepatitis B patients during long-term entecavir therapy' is an interesting study on the role of HBsAg levels in predicting treatment responses and the clinical significance of HBsAg kinetics in chronic hepatitis B patients during the entecavir therapy. The authors reported that the lower baseline HBsAg levels were associated with an earlier virological response, earlier HBeAg seroconversion, and earlier biochemical response in HBe Ag-positive patients and an earlier virological response in HBe Ag-negative non-cirrhotic patients. They also stated that higher HBsAg decrease rates were found in the first year in the patients with HBe Ag-positive non-cirrhosis or with higher baseline HBsAg levels. They concluded that HBsAg baseline could be used to predict treatment response, but, a rapid HBsAg decline



**Baishideng  
Publishing  
Group**

7901 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 501,  
Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA  
**Telephone:** +1-925-223-8242  
**Fax:** +1-925-223-8243  
**E-mail:** bpgoffice@wjgnet.com  
**https://** www.wjgnet.com

in the first year is not associated with favorable clinical outcomes despite of slow decrease of HBsAg levels during long term entecavir treatment. The study is well conducted and the data is presented clearly. However, I have following questions. Major issues 1) It would be helpful if the authors compared the cumulative incidence of patients between HBeAg-negative non-cirrhotic patients with a baseline HBsAg level of  $<2.4$  log IU/mL and those with a baseline HBsAg level of  $\geq 2.4$  log IU/mL HBeAg. 2) It would also be helpful if the authors compared the cumulative incidence of HBeAg-positive patients between HBeAg-negative non-cirrhotic patients with a baseline HBsAg level of  $<4.0$  log IU/mL and those with a baseline HBsAg level of  $\geq 4.0$  log IU/mL HBeAg. 3) The authors can make a stronger case by conducting a one-way ANOVA instead of student's t test for Figure 3B. Minor issues The authors should cite the following paper for the idea of interpreting HBsAg changes during entecavir therapy Pronounced decline of serum HBsAg in chronic hepatitis B patients with long-term effective nucleos(t)ide analogs therap.: Wang ML, Chen EQ, Tao CM, Zhou TY, Liao J, Zhang DM, Wang J, Tang H. Scand J Gastroenterol. 52(12):1420-

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 36672

**Title:** A global view and clinical utility of hepatitis B surface antigen kinetics in treatment-naïve chronic hepatitis B patients during long-term entecavir therapy

**Reviewer's code:** 02936069

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Yuan Qi

**Date sent for review:** 2017-10-18

**Date reviewed:** 2017-11-01

**Review time:** 14 Days

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This article can be accepted. In this research manuscript, the authors observed a global view and clinical utility of hepatitis B surface antigen kinetics in treatment-naïve chronic hepatitis B patients during long-term entecavir therapy. No seriously grammar mistakes were found and no statistical methods were observed. I think this article can be accepted.