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## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 36901

**Title:** The high burden of hepatocellular carcinoma and viral hepatitis in Southern and Central Vietnam: experience of a large tertiary referral center, 2010 to 2016

**Reviewer's code:** 02860622

**Reviewer's country:** Algeria

**Science editor:** Jin-Xin Kong

**Date sent for review:** 2017-11-07

**Date reviewed:** 2017-11-13

**Review time:** 5 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"/> [ Y] Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input 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"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> [ ] Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> [ ] Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I have some remarks concerning the proposed article which is interesting especially for the number of CHC: 9% of patients without a viral cause? that mean ? other causes (dysimmune, NASH ...) or healthy liver - What are the modes of contaminations of viral infection ? - Given the common etiology is viral B? What is the proportion of patients who have received antiviral treatment and what is their genotype, viral load ? - Among the CHC diagnosed, what is the rate of patients from the screening program?



**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

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

**Manuscript NO:** 36901

**Title:** The high burden of hepatocellular carcinoma and viral hepatitis in Southern and Central Vietnam: experience of a large tertiary referral center, 2010 to 2016

**Reviewer's code:** 03646639

**Reviewer's country:** Japan

**Science editor:** Jin-Xin Kong

**Date sent for review:** 2017-11-07

**Date reviewed:** 2017-11-14

**Review time:** 6 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 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"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The paper written by Nguyen et al, entitled 'the high burden of hepatocellular carcinoma and viral hepatitis in Southern and Central Vietnam: experience of a large tertiary referral center, 2010 to 2016 is an interesting study. The authors analyzed data from 24,091 Vietnamese patients with primary hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). They revealed the number of patients has increased from 2010 to 2016, with most those having chronic HBV or HCV infections and advance stage disease at diagnosis. They also stated that tumor marker; AFP was elevated in only approximately half of the patients and use of additional biomarkers as a surveillance tool is required to determine risk of HCC development. The data is presented clearly. I have the following concerns. 1) It would be useful if authors showed more clinical baseline characteristics of the patients including tumor size, tumor number and child-pugh classification. 2) It would be



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helpful if authors analyzed risk factors for HCC other than HBV and HCV infection, for example alcohol consumption, cigarette smoking, Aflatoxin B1 exposure, and coffee consumption.



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 36901

**Title:** The high burden of hepatocellular carcinoma and viral hepatitis in Southern and Central Vietnam: experience of a large tertiary referral center, 2010 to 2016

**Reviewer's code:** 00187828

**Reviewer's country:** Turkey

**Science editor:** Jin-Xin Kong

**Date sent for review:** 2017-11-20

**Date reviewed:** 2017-11-21

**Review time:** 1 Day

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> [ Y ] Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input 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"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> [ ] Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> [ ] Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript entitled The high burden of hepatocellular carcinoma and viral hepatitis in Southern and Central Vietnam: experience of a large tertiary referral center, 2010 to 2016 by Song-Huy Nguyen-Dinh et al. has been evaluated as follows: it is well-written and presented well. It is an observational study and gives extensive data on epidemiology of HCC regarding HBV and HCV infections.



**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

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

**Manuscript NO:** 36901

**Title:** The high burden of hepatocellular carcinoma and viral hepatitis in Southern and Central Vietnam: experience of a large tertiary referral center, 2010 to 2016

**Reviewer's code:** 00068348

**Reviewer's country:** Greece

**Science editor:** Jin-Xin Kong

**Date sent for review:** 2017-11-07

**Date reviewed:** 2017-11-21

**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"/> [ Y] Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input 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"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> [ ] Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> [ ] Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The article deals with the correlation of HCC and viral hepatitis in Vietnam. It is well written providing adequate information about the presence of HCC due to hepatitis. My only remark is that 9 % of non viral cause is somehow large proportion and my second one is what about treatment and survival.



**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

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

**Manuscript NO:** 36901

**Title:** The high burden of hepatocellular carcinoma and viral hepatitis in Southern and Central Vietnam: experience of a large tertiary referral center, 2010 to 2016

**Reviewer's code:** 03475479

**Reviewer's country:** Japan

**Science editor:** Jin-Xin Kong

**Date sent for review:** 2017-11-20

**Date reviewed:** 2017-11-22

**Review time:** 2 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 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"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input checked="" 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		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" 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**

Authors described about the prevalence of HCC diagnosed at a large tertiary referral center in Southern and Central Vietnam. In this study, many patients were diagnosed with advanced disease. HCC treatment is determined according to HCC progression and liver reserve function. Several issues should be addressed. 1. Liver functions (e.g. Child-Pugh score, MELD, Alb, T-Bil,,,) should be clarified. 2. The staging of HCC should be shown. At least, the presence of extrahepatic metastasis and macroscopic vascular invasion should be clarified. 3. Authors should mention how patients were followed. Or authors should describe the main reason of referral to the hospital. 4. Authors should show the history of HBV vaccination. 5. HBV-viral load might be mentioned. 6. Authors should discuss more detail how patients with chronic liver diseases should be followed.



**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

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

**Manuscript NO:** 36901

**Title:** The high burden of hepatocellular carcinoma and viral hepatitis in Southern and Central Vietnam: experience of a large tertiary referral center, 2010 to 2016

**Reviewer's code:** 02441161

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Jin-Xin Kong

**Date sent for review:** 2017-11-20

**Date reviewed:** 2017-11-26

**Review time:** 6 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 type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input 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"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This observational study elucidated the burden of primary HCC and viral hepatitis in the largest tertiary referral center in southern and central Vietnam, placed on the resource-limited medical system, as well as geographic and demographic epidemiological trends from 2010 to 2016. The authors find an increasing number of patients receiving care at the Hospital, with most patients having an advanced disease stage not amendable to treatment, and additionally these cases are reasonably attributed to chronic HBV or HCV infection. This is a well conducted and well written study. The results are shown nicely and the figure is impressive.