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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 38992

Title: Naturally occurring hepatitis B virus reverse transcriptase mutations related to potential antiviral drug resistance and liver disease progression

Reviewer's code: 02521807

Reviewer's country: Argentina

Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong

Date sent for review: 2018-03-27

Date reviewed: 2018-03-28

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"/> 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 review from is well written and involves updated references. Major comments: 1. The references and analysis appears to be more strongly focussed on data collected from Asia and in a substantial low incumbence from Europe and US. Only three references are mentioned from these countries. Likewise, from South America a single study from Brazil is mentioned. The Table 1 is eloquent. It is difficult to find countries other from Asia included. These data could be misinterpreted from non-specialist reader. 2. The incumbence of genomic recombination on HBV is not mentioned nor analysed at all. This phenomenon could be involved among countries where such genomic variants are predominant. This topic should be discussed. 3. The coinfection with HIV is ignored and may impact on prevalence of HBV resistance. Only two references are included but this hot topic is essentially ignored. Minor comments The authors should polish



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throughout the manuscript some typing errors (i.e. line 129, page 6: "patients"; line 282, page 13:"negative")



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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 38992

Title: Naturally occurring hepatitis B virus reverse transcriptase mutations related to potential antiviral drug resistance and liver disease progression

Reviewer's code: 00032020

Reviewer's country: Japan

Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong

Date sent for review: 2018-03-27

Date reviewed: 2018-04-01

Review time: 4 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

Manuscript NO: 38992 Title: Naturally occurring hepatitis B virus reverse transcriptase mutations related to potential antiviral drug resistance and liver disease progression
 Manuscript Type: Review Dr. Choi YM et al. This is an interesting and informative review. However, it is too complicated to understand it. One of the reasons was the duplication statement. Authors should revise the duplicated categories and statement in manuscript. For example, 'disease progression' and 'clinical severity of liver disease' was the same category. Next, association between the detection rate and the method was important issue for consideration of mutations in RT. This issue is not related to pathology of mutation of HBV infection, is a technical problem. So, the difference of detection rate by method should be written as the limitation. Minor; In line 127, page 6, 'demonst58ted' should be revised.