



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 39969

Title: While One in Five Hepatocellular Carcinoma Patients in the U.S. are Hispanic, Less Than 40% Were Eligible for Liver Transplantation

Reviewer’s code: 00503561

Reviewer’s country: Japan

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2018-05-23

Date reviewed: 2018-05-23

Review time: 0 Hour

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer’s expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is the very basic descriptive data based on SEERs. Just add several analyses, which the readers may be interested in: 1. They stated surveillance covers 18 regions. Provide region to region difference. 2. Is it possible the profile shown in Table 1 can be compared



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to the profile of Whites and Asian in the same period and areas.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- The same title
- Duplicate publication
- Plagiarism
- No

BPG Search:

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Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 39969

Title: While One in Five Hepatocellular Carcinoma Patients in the U.S. are Hispanic, Less Than 40% Were Eligible for Liver Transplantation

Reviewer's code: 03647931

Reviewer's country: Egypt

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2018-06-01

Date reviewed: 2018-06-12

Review time: 11 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This manuscript addresses a very important challenge in Hispanic patients with HCC. This topic is very interesting and is of great clinical relevance. The study is properly designed and the paper is very well written. However, i have few minor comments and



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queries: 1- what is the percentage of hispanic population in those 18 regions from which the data were collected, compared to the national figure? 2- Did the authors study the effects of other factors such as alcohol consumption, obesity, and diabetes mellitus? 3- Could the authors give more detailed explanation, why the incidence of HCC among hispanics surpassed Asians since 2012? did HBV vaccination played a role in risk reduction among Asians? 4- Was there any data comparing Hispanics born in USA versus those who migrated t USA? 5- Is there any data comparing white versus non-white hisanics?

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Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 39969

Title: While One in Five Hepatocellular Carcinoma Patients in the U.S. are Hispanic, Less Than 40% Were Eligible for Liver Transplantation

Reviewer’s code: 02529007

Reviewer’s country: Iran

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2018-06-01

Date reviewed: 2018-06-14

Review time: 13 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
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			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Manuscript ID 39969 entitled, “While One in Five Hepatocellular Carcinoma Patients in the U.S. are Hispanic, Less Than 40% Were Eligible for Liver Transplantation” evaluated disparities in HCC tumor stage at diagnosis with a focus on Hispanics with HCC in the



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U.S. Findings indicated that despite the increase in the proportion of HCC in Hispanic populations (over 20% of HCC patients in the U.S. during 2013-2014 were of Hispanic ethnicity), less than half of them were within Milan Criteria (42.6%) at time of diagnosis. Furthermore, significant disparities among this group were observed, with disproportionately higher risk of advanced tumor stage at presentation seen among Hispanic men, older Hispanic patients, and uninsured Hispanic patients. Authors concluded that further efforts at HCC screening and surveillance are needed among this group to improve early detection. Comments: Over all the manuscript is well-written and organized. The following comments might help in further improvement of the article in a minor revised version. -Figures 1 and 2 harbor proper titles but the figure legends to make the figures self-explanatory for the deduced conclusions with introducing the abbreviations at last sentences of the figure legends are absent. Please provide the required corresponding figure legends. - There is no 2018 recent citations in the manuscript. I propose to get use of the following articles in Introduction and discussion sections: - Racial and Ethnic Differences in Presentation and Outcomes of Hepatocellular Carcinoma. Rich NE, Hester C, Odewole M, Murphy CC, Parikh ND, Marrero JA, Yopp AC, Singal AG. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2018 May 31. pii: S1542-3565(18)30571-8. doi: 10.1016/j.cgh.2018.05.039. - Higher risk of hepatocellular carcinoma in Hispanic patients with hepatitis C cirrhosis and metabolic risk factors. Wong A, Le A, Lee MH, Lin YJ, Nguyen P, Trinh S, Dang H, Nguyen MH. Sci Rep. 2018 May 8;8(1):7164. doi: 10.1038/s41598-018-25533-2. - Surveillance for hepatocellular cancer. Roskilly A, Rowe IA. Clin Med (Lond). 2018 Apr 1;18(Suppl 2):s66-s69. doi: 10.7861/clinmedicine.18-2-s66. - When and how should we perform a biopsy for HCC in patients with liver cirrhosis in 2018? A review. Russo FP, Imondi A, Lynch EN, Farinati F. Dig Liver Dis. 2018 Mar 20. pii: S1590-8658(18)30232-9. doi: 10.1016/j.dld.2018.03.014. [Epub ahead of print] Review.



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