

July 9, 2018

RE: Revision of manuscript *Osteoporosis in primary biliary cholangitis*, 40099

The Editors, *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Dear Dr. Ze-Mao Gong,

Thank you for the opportunity to revise our manuscript, *Osteoporosis in primary biliary cholangitis*. We appreciate your careful review and constructive suggestions.

Following this letter are the editor and reviewer comments with our responses in italics, indicating how and where the text was modified. Changes made in the manuscript are marked using track changes. This revision was undertaken in consultation with all coauthors who approve of the final form of this revision. The agreement form signed by each author remains valid.

Sincerely,

Alan Bonder, MD
Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School
Liver Center, 110 Francis St. Suite 8, Boston, MA 02215
Phone: 617-632-1070
Fax: 617-623-1065

REVIEWER #1:

Christopher J Danford et al mini-reviewed osteoporosis in primary biliary cholangitis in this manuscript. This work is worth for possible publication in WJG if some minor comments listed below could be properly responded. Major comments. None. Minor comments.

1. Page 8, line 11. Spell out BMD as bone mineral density as these words are initially presented in this manuscript.

We spelled out bone mineral density (page 7, line 21)

2. Page 9, line 8. Bone mineral density is BMD since these words are secondary presented in this manuscript.

We abbreviated bone mineral density as BMD (page 8, lines 3 and 11)

3. Page 13, line 3. The BMD of the etidronate group is 1.9% according to Table 2 while it is described as 1.4% in this main part of the manuscript. Which is true?

1.9% was correct in Table 2. This was altered in the manuscript to reflect this. (page 11, line 10)

4. Page 14, line 9. Hormone replacement therapy is hormone replacement therapy (HRT) since there is no footnote concerning abbreviations used in Table 1.

We abbreviated hormone replacement therapy as HRT (page 12, line 9)

5. Page 35. Table 2. There is much redundancy in Table 2. The data of Guanabens 1997 and 2003 are duplicate in Table 2. Please make a correction.

Our apologies, we deleted the extra lines with Guanabens 1997 and 2003 (page 30)