

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 41151

Title: Genetic diversity of hepatitis viruses in West-African countries from 1996 to 2018

Reviewer's code: 02943615

Reviewer's country: Italy

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2018-08-03

Date reviewed: 2018-08-03

Review time: 8 Hours

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 type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input 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 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 type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The article of Assih et al is a quite interesting article describing prevalence of different genotypes of 5 Hepatitis viruses (especially B, C) in west african countries included in the WAEMU area. Anyway, I have some raccomandations : 1) The introduction section should better describe the global diffusion and prevalence of hepatitis viruses and

their correlation with HCC development. I suggest the following articles to include in reference list: a) Hepatitis Delta Virus and Hepatocellular Carcinoma: an update. *Epidemiology and Infection* 2018 Jul 11:1-7. doi: 10.1017/S0950268818001942. b) Epidemiology of Hepatitis B virus (HBV) and Hepatitis C virus (HCV) related Hepatocellular carcinoma. *The Open Virology Journal*, 2018; 12 (Suppl.-1, M3) 26-32. c) HCV and Hepatocellular Carcinoma: pathogenetic mechanisms and impact of DAA's . *The Open Virology Journal*, 2018; 12 (Suppl.-1, M3) 16-25. d) HCV genotypes distribution among hepatocellular carcinoma patients in Southern Italy: a three year retrospective study. *Infectious Agents and Cancer* 2017; 12:52. DOI 10.1186/s13027-017-0162-5. e) Global epidemiology of Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) infection: an up-date of the circulation of HCV genotypes. *World J. Gastroenterol.* 2016 ; 22(34): 7824-7840. IF. 3,365 2) Concerning the methodology, authors should better describe: a) exclusion criteria b) selected population included in the study (risk groups or not) 3) Methods: a) please, specify methods used in the selected studies for detection of viremia (especially for HBV and HCV) b) please, specify methods used for genotyping (HCV) 4) Why authors decided to use a HCV genotype classification and not subtype?

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

BPG Search:

- ☐ The same title



**Baishideng
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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

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[] Duplicate publication

[] Plagiarism

[Y] No

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 41151

Title: Genetic diversity of hepatitis viruses in West-African countries from 1996 to 2018

Reviewer's code: 02447901

Reviewer's country: Taiwan

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2018-08-03

Date reviewed: 2018-08-05

Review time: 2 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 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 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

In this manuscript, the authors searched and analyzed literature from three databases to get information of hepatitis virus endemic in West-African. Findings of genetic diversity and genotype prevalence of common hepatitis viruses were reported. Although this manuscript provided information of about the clinical endemic of hepatitis viruses in



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7901 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 501,
Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA
Telephone: +1-925-223-8242
Fax: +1-925-223-8243
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West-African, some issues were raised for the improvement. 1. The severity of hepatic pathology and the responses to treatment depended on the hepatitis virus genotypes. Therefore, the difference in disease severity and treatment responses between hepatitis virus genotypes should be mentioned. 2. Page 4. The authors cited a reference about the description of HGV as recent study. In fact, this reference was published at 1999. 3. Page 6. 1.1. A statement of double-stranded was duplicated and the core antigen was abbreviated as HBcAg. 4. The prevalence genotypes varied among East, West, and other regions of African. A discussion was of importance. 5. The enrolled periods were 1996 to 2018. Whether a trend change of hepatitis virus genotypes can be found? If there was a change, the information would be more practical.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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- ☐ [Y] No

BPG Search:

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- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ [Y] No

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 41151

Title: Genetic diversity of hepatitis viruses in West-African countries from 1996 to 2018

Reviewer's code: 00484099

Reviewer's country: Chile

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2018-08-03

Date reviewed: 2018-08-09

Review time: 6 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:
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			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting manuscript were the authors, using available bibliographic data, analyze the different genetic variants of hepatitis viruses present in west african countries. The authors explain well the methodology used in their analysis to compares the strains, but never explain what are the main differences among those strains, this is



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Group**

7901 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 501,
Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA
Telephone: +1-925-223-8242
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E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
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important for readers that are unfamiliar with Hepatitis viruses. Also it is important since they state this differences can lead to different courses in the disease or the response to antivirals. Along the texts there are several lenguaje issues, maybe words incorrectly translated or typos, along with weird grammar and some HIV that maybe should be HCV or HBV? All these little errors are marked in yellow in the attached file

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BPG Search:

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- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ [Y] No