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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 43243

Title: High prevalence of occult hepatitis C infection in predialysis patients

Reviewer’s code: 02544416

Reviewer’s country: Serbia

Science editor: Jia-Ping Yan

Date sent for review: 2018-10-31

Date reviewed: 2018-11-04

Review time: 4 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language | (High priority) | <input checked="" 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 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

I read with great interest manuscript entitled “ High prevalence of occult hepatitis C infection in predialysis patients”. All parts of the manuscript are concisely and coherently organized and presented, give all necessary information and effortlessly written. The tables support the results. Some corrections should be done: • The study



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group should be divided according to the ethnicity and not skin color • Can you fulfill your data with results of LFTs • The list of references should be revised according to the guidelines of the journal (for example reference 19???) • It is very kind to mention cooperation and kindness of patients, but redundant Despite the authors claim that the findings of this study are uncertain, these results are of great clinical importance, taking into account that patients with occult HCV infection are potential transmitters.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- The same title
- Duplicate publication
- Plagiarism
- No

BPG Search:

- The same title
- Duplicate publication
- Plagiarism
- No



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 43243

Title: High prevalence of occult hepatitis C infection in predialysis patients

Reviewer’s code: 00504077

Reviewer’s country: Egypt

Science editor: Jia-Ping Yan

Date sent for review: 2018-11-19

Date reviewed: 2018-11-19

Review time: 2 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good | <input checked="" 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

your research is useful and good

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:



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- Plagiarism
- No

BPG Search:

- The same title
- Duplicate publication
- Plagiarism
- No



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 43243

Title: High prevalence of occult hepatitis C infection in predialysis patients

Reviewer’s code: 00504365

Reviewer’s country: Portugal

Science editor: Jia-Ping Yan

Date sent for review: 2018-11-19

Date reviewed: 2018-11-28

Review time: 9 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 |
| <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

The manuscript by Sette et al, addresses an important and probably still neglected problem - the prevalence of occult HCV infection in predialysis patients. Introduction is concise, updated and to the point. Research seems to have been conducted with care and the authors are aware of the main limitations of the study. The manuscript is also well



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written with minor language polishing needed, mainly due to typos. In the results section, I recommend the inclusion of references for the primers used in the amplification reactions as well as the indication of the targeted regions in the genome, and the size of the expected amplicon. Moreover, description of the first cDNA reaction synthesis prior to amplification needs to be included. A figure depicting typical results, including positive and negative controls would be also appreciated. Although, as the authors point out, "the practical relevance of the findings... is uncertain" this study deserves attention and may be of potential interest to the readers.

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