

To:

January 21, 2019

Editor

WORLD JOURNAL OF HEPATOLOGY

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Article for submission under "Observational Studies" in the *World Journal of Hepatology*

On behalf of all authors, I confirm that the biostatistics included in the study have been reviewed by a member of our institution's department of Quantitative Health Sciences.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William Carey".

William Carey, MD