

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 47268

**Title:** Epidemiology of hepatitis E in South-East Europe in the "One Health" concept

**Reviewer's code:** 00722050

**Reviewer's country:** Canada

**Science editor:** Ruo-Yu Ma

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-04-17 10:16

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-04-19 13:32

**Review time:** 2 Days and 3 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

In this study, the authors attempts to perform a systematic review regarding hepatitis E distribution in humans, animals and environmental samples based on "One Health" concept in the South-Eastern European countries. Authors state that by comparing the the available data, the anti-HEV seroprevalence in the South-Eastern Europe appears to

vary, depending on studied population, geographical area as well as the methods used. Authors have discussed each country separately. Precisely speaking, authors further report that older age was the most significant predictor for HEV seropositivity in most studies while/risk factor. Authors further discuss the seroprevalence rates found in animal found to be higher while data on HEV prevalence in environmental samples is rather scarce. Additionally, the data on genetic characterization demonstrated that human, animal and environmental HEV strains mainly belong to the genotype 3. Authors finally suggest that development of a vaccine against the zoonotic genotypes 3 and 4 and vaccination of swine is worth considering since it may provide health benefits, particularly to for high-risk populations such as organ transplant recipients since the majority of the chronic hepatitis E are caused by the zoonotic HEV-3.

Comments: Overall it is a great study. It cites a substantial number of papers while report some important information. However, I have few suggestions as follows,

2. It should be indicated that the work consists of a bibliographic review, both in the title, and include a section of methodology used.
3. After Introduction, manuscript directly jumps on the topic of Hep E prevalence in the countries. In my opinion, there should be a methodology section, indicating the databases analyzed, search strategy used, as well as descriptors, years, etc.
4. Also the inclusion and exclusion criteria of the articles found, indicating the total number of articles found, included and excluded.
5. Few spelling errors are present throughout the manuscript, and should be corrected.

## INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

### *Google Search:*

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism



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[ Y ] No

***BPG Search:***

[ ] The same title

[ ] Duplicate publication

[ ] Plagiarism

[Y ] No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 47268

**Title:** Epidemiology of hepatitis E in South-East Europe in the "One Health" concept

**Reviewer's code:** 01221188

**Reviewer's country:** Japan

**Science editor:** Ruo-Yu Ma

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-04-17 22:43

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-04-24 01:00

**Review time:** 6 Days and 2 Hours

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
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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 review describes the details of the epidemiology of hepatitis E virus infection in South-East Europe. This article is well described and valuable to understand the epidemiology of HEV infection. Minor revisions 1) The figure legend is necessary for the Fig.



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#### INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

##### *Google Search:*

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

##### *BPG Search:*

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