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# PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Clinical Cases

**Manuscript NO:** 47668

**Title:** Surveillance and diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma. Systematic Review

**Reviewer's code:** 02520738

**Reviewer's country:** Italy

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-03-26 18:29

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-03-29 22:00

**Review time:** 3 Days and 3 Hours

| SCIENTIFIC QUALITY | LANGUAGE QUALITY | CONCLUSION | PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS |
|---|---|---|---|
| [ ] Grade A: Excellent | [Y] Grade A: Priority publishing | [ ] Accept (High priority) | Peer-Review: |
| [Y] Grade B: Very good | [ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing | [ ] Accept (General priority) | [Y] Anonymous |
| [ ] Grade C: Good | [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing | [Y] Minor revision | [ ] Onymous |
| [ ] Grade D: Fair | [ ] Grade D: Rejection | [ ] Major revision | Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript: |
| [ ] Grade E: Do not publish | | [ ] Rejection | [Y] Advanced |
| | | | [ ] General |
| | | | [ ] No expertise |
| | | | Conflicts-of-Interest: |
| | | | [ ] Yes |
| | | | [Y] No |

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

To: Editorial Board World Journal of Gastroenterology Title: "Surveillance and diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma. Systematic Review" Dear Editor, I read this manuscript and I think that: - A representative figure should be created for this review. - The role of care manager should be discussed. Please consider and discuss the paper

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from Ciccone MM et al. Vasc Health Risk Manag. 2010 May 6;6:297-305.

**INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

***Google Search:***

[ ] The same title

[ ] Duplicate publication

[ ] Plagiarism

[ Y ] No

***BPG Search:***

[ ] The same title

[ ] Duplicate publication

[ ] Plagiarism

[ Y ] No

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# PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Clinical Cases

**Manuscript NO:** 47668

**Title:** Surveillance and diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma. Systematic Review

**Reviewer's code:** 02992582

**Reviewer's country:** Italy

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-05-10 13:23

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-05-12 19:48

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

| SCIENTIFIC QUALITY | LANGUAGE QUALITY | CONCLUSION | PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS |
|---|---|---|---|
| [ ] Grade A: Excellent<br>[ ] Grade B: Very good<br>[ ] Grade C: Good<br>[ Y] Grade D: Fair<br>[ ] Grade E: Do not publish | [ ] Grade A: Priority publishing<br>[ Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing<br>[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing<br>[ ] Grade D: Rejection | [ ] Accept (High priority)<br>[ ] Accept (General priority)<br>[ Y] Minor revision<br>[ ] Major revision<br>[ ] Rejection | Peer-Review:<br>[ Y] Anonymous<br>[ ] Onymous<br>Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:<br>[ Y] Advanced<br>[ ] General<br>[ ] No expertise<br>Conflicts-of-Interest:<br>[ ] Yes<br>[ Y] No |

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Pascual and co-authors present here a review paper on the surveillance and diagnosis of HCC. This contribution is written with attention for details, accuracy and scientific rigor. Data are meticulously presented. I have only some minor comments: 1) I would stress much more the importance of screening in NAFLD population, which is becoming more

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and more relevant. Qhat are the main limitation of diagnostic techniques? What would be the target? Only patients with cirrhosis or also those with advanced fibrosis? If yes, what would be the best way to diagnosis advanced fibrosis? 2) I think it's very important to underline the need of continuing HCC surveillance in patients with HCV cirrhosis after the achievement of SVR 3) I would probably quote the studies that showed an increased incidence of non neoplastic portal vein thrombosis in HCC patients (see for example Zanetto 2017), and the need of make a differential diagnosis between neoplastic and non-neoplastic portal vein thrombosis in patients with HCC 4) Please describe a bit more the biomarkers and their clinical use

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[ ] Plagiarism

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# PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Clinical Cases

**Manuscript NO:** 47668

**Title:** Surveillance and diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma. Systematic Review

**Reviewer's code:** 03358964

**Reviewer's country:** Italy

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-05-10 09:05

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-05-12 21:19

**Review time:** 2 Days and 12 Hours

| SCIENTIFIC QUALITY | LANGUAGE QUALITY | CONCLUSION | PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS |
|---|---|---|---|
| [ ] Grade A: Excellent<br>[ ] Grade B: Very good<br>[ Y] Grade C: Good<br>[ ] Grade D: Fair<br>[ ] Grade E: Do not publish | [ ] Grade A: Priority publishing<br>[ Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing<br>[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing<br>[ ] Grade D: Rejection | [ ] Accept (High priority)<br>[ ] Accept (General priority)<br>[ Y] Minor revision<br>[ ] Major revision<br>[ ] Rejection | Peer-Review:<br>[ Y] Anonymous<br>[ ] Onymous<br>Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:<br>[ Y] Advanced<br>[ ] General<br>[ ] No expertise<br>Conflicts-of-Interest:<br>[ ] Yes<br>[ Y] No |

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a systematic review about surveillance and diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma. Text is well written, there are only few concerns. 1.The authors should shorten the paragraph IMAGING DIAGNOSIS, introducing some tables, for examples, to summarize the typical pattern of HCC; but they should mention as well the atypical

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features of HCC. Moreover, they should emphasize the role of HEPATOSPECIFIC CONTRAST AGENTS, adding more recent ad up to date references to this topic. MRI with HEPATOSPECIFIC CONTRAST is nowadays considered, as they only briefly mentioned, the most accurate diagnostic tool in imaging diagnosis of HCC. I strongly suggest supporting the text with additional table. 2.Minor language polishing is needed.

**INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

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[ ] The same title

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[ ] Plagiarism

[ Y ] No

***BPG Search:***

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# PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Clinical Cases

**Manuscript NO:** 47668

**Title:** Surveillance and diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma. Systematic Review

**Reviewer's code:** 02860516

**Reviewer's country:** Italy

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-05-10 14:07

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-05-19 17:23

**Review time:** 9 Days and 3 Hours

| SCIENTIFIC QUALITY | LANGUAGE QUALITY | CONCLUSION | PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS |
|---|---|---|---|
| [ ] Grade A: Excellent<br>[ ] Grade B: Very good<br>[ Y] Grade C: Good<br>[ ] Grade D: Fair<br>[ ] Grade E: Do not publish | [ ] Grade A: Priority publishing<br>[ Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing<br>[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing<br>[ ] Grade D: Rejection | [ ] Accept (High priority)<br>[ ] Accept (General priority)<br>[ Y] Minor revision<br>[ ] Major revision<br>[ ] Rejection | Peer-Review:<br>[ Y] Anonymous<br>[ ] Onymous<br>Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:<br>[ Y] Advanced<br>[ ] General<br>[ ] No expertise<br>Conflicts-of-Interest:<br>[ ] Yes<br>[ Y] No |

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This paper by Sonia Pascual et al is a comprehensive review on "Surveillance and diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma". It is a well designed work. Particularly well written are both the different sections according to the etiologies and the images techniques. Specific comments N 1 Authors should insert abbreviations throughout the

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manuscript starting from the Abstract session N 2 Page 5 last line and page 6 lines 1-13 : Authors should specify in a flow charts how many articles have been analyzed in both the topics considered (i.e diagnosis and screening). In particular, they should specify the articles included and excluded from analysis according to the type (i.e. Case reports, meta-analysis, and reviews) N 3 Page 6 line 18: Authors should give more details on the number of patients analyzed in the two manuscripts. N 4 Page 6 line 41: authors wrote "…A recent meta-analysis of studies published between 1990 and 2014, including abstracts presented in congresses from 2009 to 2012, identified a total of 45 articles that included in total 15158 patients with HCC, of which 41% had been diagnosed in screening programs.." This is related to what previously underlined in the previous question (N 3) regarding the type of products included in the study (original studies, meta-analysis etc.). Furthermore, authors should give information on the geographic provenience of the studies and the aetiologies of patients included in the analysis N 5 Page 7 line 4: The sentence is too long and deserves English revision N 6 page 7 line 35: Authors should specify the criteria used to consider the relevance of the studies included in Table 1 N 7 Page 8 line 38 Authors should specify that US is an operator-dependent technique N8 Page 13 line 1: Authors should also cite the EASL indications for HCC screening in the different categories of HBV patients. N9 Page 14 line 15: Authors should include the diagnostic algorithm for hepatic <1 cm nodules as stated by the EASL. N 10 Page 17 line 11: Authors should give more details on the use of CEUS particularly in patients with contraindications to perform MRI or CT

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# PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Clinical Cases

**Manuscript NO:** 47668

**Title:** Surveillance and diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma. Systematic Review

**Reviewer's code:** 03509551

**Reviewer's country:** United States

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-05-10 23:45

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-05-20 04:49

**Review time:** 9 Days and 5 Hours

| SCIENTIFIC QUALITY | LANGUAGE QUALITY | CONCLUSION | PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS |
|---|---|---|---|
| [ ] Grade A: Excellent<br>[ ] Grade B: Very good<br>[ ] Grade C: Good<br>[ Y] Grade D: Fair<br>[ ] Grade E: Do not publish | [ ] Grade A: Priority publishing<br>[ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing<br>[ Y] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing<br>[ ] Grade D: Rejection | [ ] Accept (High priority)<br>[ ] Accept (General priority)<br>[ ] Minor revision<br>[ ] Major revision<br>[ Y] Rejection | Peer-Review:<br>[ Y] Anonymous<br>[ ] Onymous<br>Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:<br>[ Y] Advanced<br>[ ] General<br>[ ] No expertise<br>Conflicts-of-Interest:<br>[ ] Yes<br>[ Y] No |

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Thank you for allowing me to review this manuscript. It is a very important topic in liver transplantation. While many topics are highlighted in this manuscript, it is not comprehensive enough.

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[ ] Plagiarism

[ Y ] No