Reviewer 1

The manuscript titled: "Reduced Lysosomal Acid Lipase Activity: a New Marker of Liver Disease Severity Across the Clinical Continuum of NAFLD?" is a very informative review on the association of reduced LAL activity with NAFLD. It reviewed a good number of studies on the subject in various ages and with several etiologies, including the authors own previous work.

The manuscript is well-written, however some terms have to be revised: genetic defection, Genetic of lysosomal acid lipase deficiency. Some care has to be paid to abbreviations which have to be mentioned in full before using the abbreviation: HS, DBS.

Reply: Terms have been revised and the above abbreviations are now fully mentioned at their first appearance.

The following sentence is difficult to understand: LAL reduction was not secondary to the inclusion of any subject carrying the E8SJM mutation in the LIPA gene either at the homozygous or at the heterozygous level.

What I cannot get is how are all authors so sure of non genetic cause of LAL reduction in NAFLD without doing genetic testing? Could it be a mild form of LAL mutation responsible for NAFLD, with activity above the 12% of CESD?

Reply: The sentence refers to the Vespasiani study (ref. 34). In this study, authors sequenced LIPA gene and excluded the genetic etiology for the observed LAL reduction. The manuscript was amended accordingly.

Reviewer 2

Dear Respect authors, this review proposed that measurement of LAL activity would be a possible new marker of disease severity in advanced forms of NAFLD. Please define the search strategy method, inclusion and exclusion criteria and data extraction.

Reply: According to the Editor's invitation, we have prepared a narrative review and not a systematic review and metanalysis. Therefore, we believe that the definition of search strategy methods and data extraction according to PRISMA criteria, is not indicated. In this review, all relevant publications have been reviewed with the exclusions of single case reports.

An extensive review of English language was carried out