

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



September 1, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: #(Format for review)-ID00012386-WJI-4874R1.doc).

Title: Role of interleukin-28B genotype in older hepatitis C virus-infected patients

Author: Tatsuo Kanda, Shingo Nakamoto, Shuang Wu, Osamu Yokosuka

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Immunology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 4874

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

(1) The comment from reviewer **00503066**

Response to your comment: "The manuscript by Kanda et al is a review on the relationship between IL28B genotype and the response to treatment by older Hepatitis C Virus-infected patients. The manuscript follows a clear logic and fits within the scope of the World Journal of Immunology. However, this manuscript lacks the depth a review should have. Many ideas and concepts are touched just briefly. This needs to be revised and improved. There are too many abbreviations used without proper definition, for example: HCV, HBV, HCC, AFP, SOC, SVR, IP10, ISGs, EVR, DAAs. The excess use of abbreviations makes this manuscript difficult to read and follow. Please spell these terms out throughout the document."

Thank you for your valuable comment. We agree with you. According to your suggestion, we revised and improved our manuscript. We also spelled these out throughout the revised manuscript.

Response to your comment: "Since this manuscript is intended to be a review, terms such as "Sustained virological response (SVR) rates" should be explained in order to readers not familiar with this measurements can follow this report. Similarly a better description of the IL28B genotype is needed. What is the gene? What does it code for? Etc."

Thank you for your valuable comment. We agree with you. We described the definition of sustained virological response and wrote an explanation for IL28B genotype.

Response to your comment: "The grammar and punctuation need to be revised, preferably by an English-native speaker."

Thank you. We asked an English-native speaker to correct the grammar and punctuation.

Response to your comment: "The conclusion is vague and goes unnoticed. A better description of the genotypes, types of treatment, and results should improve the conclusion."

Thank you for your valuable comment. We agree with you. We revised the conclusion section accordingly.

Response to your comment: " In Table 1, how are the data (years) expressed? Are they average \pm SD? Also,

references 20 and 21 do not correspond to the articles cited. Please review these citations. In Figure 1, what are genotypes 1 and 2? Please define them. They are also not explained clearly in the text. Some references do not follow the World Journal of Immunology format."

Thank you for your valuable comment. We agree with you. We revised Table 1 and Figure 1 accordingly. We also described the "HCV genotypes" in the text and fixed the style of the references.

(2) The comment from reviewer **00502975**

Response to your comment: Thank you. We improved our manuscript accordingly.

3 References and typesetting were corrected.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Immunology*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tatsuo Kanda', written in a cursive style.

Tatsuo Kanda, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor,
Department of Gastroenterology and Nephrology, Chiba University,
Graduate School of Medicine, Chiba 260-8670, Japan.
kandat-cib@umin.ac.jp