



**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

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

**Manuscript NO:** 50061

**Title:** Sarcopenia and cognitive impairment in liver cirrhosis: A viewpoint on the clinical impact of minimal hepatic encephalopathy

**Reviewer’s code:** 03195661

**Reviewer’s country:** China

**Science editor:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-07-02 14:35

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-07-15 07:53

**Review time:** 12 Days and 17 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 checked="" 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
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" 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 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**

This review by Silvia Nardelli et al extensively summarized the literatures about the relationship between sarcopenia and cognitive impairment in cirrhotic patients. The authors concluded that the severity and prevalence of sarcopenia acts as prognostic



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factor correlates and is related to several complications of cirrhosis; the amelioration of nutritional status may be a possible goal to decrease the prevalence of minimal hepatic encephalopathy (MHE) and its clinical consequences. This review is correctly written and instructive. Major comment: The authors should clearly definite the concept of minimal hepatic encephalopathy (MHE) including the clinical manifestations and diagnostic criteria. Other comment: These are some writing errors, for example, in table 1. "handgrip strenght".

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

##### ***Google Search:***

- The same title
- Duplicate publication
- Plagiarism
- No

##### ***BPG Search:***

- The same title
- Duplicate publication
- Plagiarism
- No



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

**Manuscript NO:** 50061

**Title:** Sarcopenia and cognitive impairment in liver cirrhosis: A viewpoint on the clinical impact of minimal hepatic encephalopathy

**Reviewer's code:** 00614079

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-07-03 00:35

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-07-19 09:59

**Review time:** 16 Days and 9 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This is an interesting and updated review on the topic of "Sarcopenia and cognitive impairment among patients with minimal hepatoencephalopathy (MHE) and liver cirrhosis". I have no special comments on the detailed review of the relevant study



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addressing this issue. However, I would recommend the authors add one latest research article (Tapper EB, Derstine B, Baki J, Su GL. Dig Dis Sci. 2019 Jul 10. ), and also add and compare with one latest review on this issue (Lattanzi B, D'Ambrosio D, Merli M. J Clin Exp Hepatol. 2019 Jan-Feb;9(1):125-130.).

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**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

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

**Manuscript NO:** 50061

**Title:** Sarcopenia and cognitive impairment in liver cirrhosis: A viewpoint on the clinical impact of minimal hepatic encephalopathy

**Reviewer's code:** 01560452

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Jia-Ping Yan

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**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-07-22 04:31

**Review time:** 16 Days and 20 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

In this review, the authors reviewed the correlation of sarcopenia and minimal hepatic encephalopathy (MHE) in liver cirrhosis. They assessed the related researches and conclude that some of the clinical effects attributed until now to the presence of MHE



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may be partially or totally explained by the contemporary presence of sarcopenia. The review was well written, and here I have some minor concerns: 1. Since sarcopenia is mainly due to the malnutrition in liver cirrhotic patients, are there any researches reporting that nutritional treatment can improve the sarcopenia and, in a way, improve the MHE? 2. As mentioned by the author, hyperammonemia could be associated with sarcopenia and MHE, did the studies reviewed in Table 1 tested the ammonia level of the patients? does the sarcopenia have a correlation with hyperammonemia?

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