

May 7, 2020

Dear Prof. Ruo-Yu Ma, Editorial Office Director, Editorial Office
Baishideng Publishing Group Inc
World Journal of Hepatology

Dear Professor Lian-Sheng Ma,

Thank you very much for additional comments: Dear Author, 1 The APC for the invited manuscript is free. 2 Can you please submit the manuscript before 2020-06-01?. Fortunately, the clinical work related to COVID-19 patients reduced due to the declaration of a state of emergency by the government and resultantly the number of the patients decreased. Thus, we could focus on this revision to some extent.

We revised our manuscript NO: 54737, which is the originally invited manuscript, to be considered for publication in *World Journal of Hepatology*. We responded to reviewer's suggestions point by point. The corrections were written in red. The answers are written in Italics.

1 Peer-review report

Reviewer #1: RT-PCR and Western blotting have recently demonstrated decreased expression of not only SIRT1, but also SIRT3, SIRT5, and SIRT6 in the NAFLD group in comparison with the control group. The link lies on the increased expression of lipogenic genes (mainly impaired in NAFLD) including sterol regulatory element binding protein-1 (SREBP-1), fatty acid synthase (FASN), and acetyl-CoA carboxylase (ACC) was noted within the NAFLD group. In contrast to the other SIRT genes, the expression of SIRT4 was upregulated, highlighting the key role of SIRT 4. *Ann Clin Lab Sci* Autumn 2014 vol. 44 no. 4 410-418. Thus, pointing out all on Sirt 1 is a little bit reductive. Authors should comment on this aspect, also at the light of other observations concerning the role

of SIRT 4 in NAFLD.

We added an additional discussion at lines 368-384, page 25 and cited ref #35-38.

Authors are kindly requested to present their data as means plus/minus SD and not SEM, because readers are interested in knowing the dispersion of values and not the precision of the mean, due to the paucity of observations, i.e., eight for each group.

We presented data as mean plus/minus SD instead of SEM in the revised manuscript. Please see line 196 on page 9 and revised figures.

2 Editorial Office's comments

1) Science Editor: Recommend for transfer to the World Journal of Hepatology. Scientific quality is D, language quality is C. Scientific quality is not reach to the publication standard of WJG. This is a basic study of SGLT2 inhibitor and SIRT signaling.

Reviewer# 03478516 pointed out there are some issues need to be addressed in the manuscript.

We addressed these issues as mentioned above in the revised manuscript.

The authors are kindly requested to present their data as means plus/minus SD and not SEM, because readers are interested in knowing the dispersion of values and not the precision of the mean, due to the paucity of observations.

We presented data as mean plus/minus SD instead of SEM as mentioned above in the revised manuscript.

Language needs a great deal of polishing. Therefore, I suggest the Editorial Office director to reject this manuscript, or transfer to the World Journal of Hepatology.

We resubmitted our revised manuscript to American Journal Experts by letting them know your judgment with language evaluation. They extensively reedited our manuscript by two editors. Please check the quality again. We attached new Editing Certificate. If you have any requests and/or questions, please feel free to contact me.

Best regards,

Please send all correspondence to me at the address below:

Ken Sato, M.D., Ph.D.,

Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology,

Gunma University Graduate School of Medicine,

3-39-22 Showa, Maebashi, Gunma 371-8511, Japan.

Phone: +81-27-220-8127 Fax: +81-27-220-8127

E-mail: satoken@gunma-u.ac.jp

Respectfully yours,

Ken Sato, M.D., Ph.D.