

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 55424

Title: Efficacy of a Chinese Herbal Formula on HBeAg-Positive Chronic Hepatitis B Patients with Normal ALT: A Large, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Double-Blind, Multicenter Trial

Reviewer's code: 00071703

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Turkey

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2020-03-25

Reviewer chosen by: Ruo-Yu Ma (Quit in 2020)

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-04-02 08:18

Reviewer performed review: 2020-04-03 21:53

Review time: 1 Day and 13 Hours

Scientific quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous

statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Efficacy of a Chinese Herbal Formula on HBeAg-Positive Chronic Hepatitis B Patients with Normal ALT: A Large, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Double-Blind, Multicenter Trial In this study, the authors aimed to evaluate the feasibility and safety profiles of a Chinese Herbal Formula (CHF) as a therapeutic option for chronic HBV infection. 395 patients (30–65 years old) with confirmed HBeAg-positive chronic hepatitis B infection and persistently normal ALT have been included in the study. They found that high rates of HBV DNA reduction, HBeAg clearance and seroconversion could be achieved with CHF treatments. They have concluded that the ability of the compound to modulate host immune function probably contributed to this effect. This manuscript is well written; also the figures and the tables are all appropriate.

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Manuscript NO: 55424

Title: Efficacy of a Chinese Herbal Formula on HBeAg-Positive Chronic Hepatitis B Patients with Normal ALT: A Large, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Double-Blind, Multicenter Trial

Reviewer's code: 00050424

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Greece

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2020-03-25

Reviewer chosen by: Ruo-Yu Ma (Quit in 2020)

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-04-02 07:09

Reviewer performed review: 2020-04-11 21:17

Review time: 9 Days and 14 Hours

Scientific quality	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="radio"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="radio"/> Grade C: Good <input type="radio"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="radio"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="radio"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="radio"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="radio"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="radio"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="radio"/> Minor revision <input type="radio"/> Major revision <input type="radio"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Anonymous <input type="radio"/> Onymous



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statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It is a well written and comprehensive article. The study is well designed and the results are clear. I think that the authors should add data from previous studies on the efficacy of this herbal on other types of hepatitis b infection. Results : 3.2.2 last sentencepatients exhibited declines in Hbe s Ag and HbeAg 6.follow up after drug withdrawalhowever 23 subjects were followed... Do you mean in the control group ??? Do you mean in the control group ???