



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 56368

Title: Hepatitis B virus detected in paper currencies in a densely populated city of India:
A plausible source of horizontal transmission?

Reviewer's code: 02441070

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Doctor, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: India

Manuscript submission date: 2020-04-27

Reviewer chosen by: Ya-Juan Ma

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-07-22 14:12

Reviewer performed review: 2020-07-22 14:24

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



**Baishideng
Publishing
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA
Telephone: +1-925-399-1568
E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
https://www.wjgnet.com

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This paper report Hepatitis B virus detected in paper currencies in a densely populated city of India: a plausible source of horizontal HBV transmission. it would help to clarify a possible way for HBV transmission



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 56368

Title: Hepatitis B virus detected in paper currencies in a densely populated city of India:
A plausible source of horizontal transmission?

Reviewer's code: 00722050

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: FRCP (C), MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Canada

Author's Country/Territory: India

Manuscript submission date: 2020-04-27

Reviewer chosen by: Ya-Juan Ma

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-07-27 00:03

Reviewer performed review: 2020-07-27 00:14

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



**Baishideng
Publishing
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA
Telephone: +1-925-399-1568
E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
https://www.wjgnet.com

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors of this manuscript on an excellent research topic have done a great job. These results may be highly relevant to COVID-19 infection. The recent significant rise in HBV infections in eastern India prompted the search for this virus in low denomination paper notes in a highly populated Indian city. Applying saliva on finger tips for enumerating currency notes is not only a common practice in the Indian subcontinent but common in many countries worldwide. Thus, this study is highly relevant. The authors discovered that, indeed, intact HBV particles are present in about 7.14% of the currencies and may enter either through the saliva or by microscopic skin defects. They have visual and DNA copy number confirmation of their hypothesis as well as several molecular biology tools. A small paragraph in the discussion on COVID-19 is crucial.



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 56368

Title: Hepatitis B virus detected in paper currencies in a densely populated city of India:
A plausible source of horizontal transmission?

Reviewer's code: 01548565

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Director

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: India

Manuscript submission date: 2020-04-27

Reviewer chosen by: Ya-Juan Ma

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-07-22 02:06

Reviewer performed review: 2020-08-03 16:36

Review time: 12 Days and 14 Hours

Scientific quality	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



**Baishideng
Publishing
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA
Telephone: +1-925-399-1568
E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
https://www.wjgnet.com

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Applying saliva on fingers for enumerating bank notes is a common practice in the Indian subcontinent. The aim of the study is to investigate if paper currency can be the plausible mode of horizontal transmission of hepatitis B virus infection. The author found that paper notes may be a potential source of “horizontal” transmission of this virus, especially if there are cuts/bruises on the oral mucous membrane or skin but it was practically not possible to experimentally demonstrate such transmission. Detection of potentially intact/viable and “occult” HBV from currency poses potential risk of silent transmission of this virus among the general population.. However ,this study lack of innovation and science, and not suitable for published in this Journal.



RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 56368

Title: Hepatitis B virus detected in paper currencies in a densely populated city of India:
A plausible source of horizontal transmission?

Reviewer's code: 00722050

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: FRCP (C), MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Canada

Author's Country/Territory: India

Manuscript submission date: 2020-04-27

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ping Yan

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-08-19 12:49

Reviewer performed review: 2020-08-19 12:53

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



**Baishideng
Publishing
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA
Telephone: +1-925-399-1568
E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
https://www.wjgnet.com

The authors addressed the concerns of the reviewers properly.