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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 57654

Title: Associations of content and gene polymorphism of macrophage inhibitory factor-1 and chronic hepatitis C virus infection

Reviewer's code: 02861303
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: MD
Professional title: Full Professor
Reviewer's Country/Territory: Russia
Author's Country/Territory: China
Manuscript submission date: 2020-06-18
Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ping Yan
Reviewer accepted review: 2020-07-28 08:56
Reviewer performed review: 2020-07-29 08:45
Review time: 23 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [Y] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y] Yes [ ] No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The work was done on the actual topic. Chronic viral hepatitis C is the leading cause of cirrhosis, cancer and liver transplantation. The research hypothesis is adequate. It is known that macrophages are the line of liver's defense against various infections. The study of the factors influencing the activity of macrophages is of undoubted interest.

The methodological level of the research is high. The results obtained should be determined as original and of value for the development of basic research and can be applied by the practical physician.

As a remark, attention should be paid to the title of the study. The most significant results were obtained for the correlation of MIC-1 content with a number of parameters characterizing the activity of inflammation, the severity of fibrosis, and the amount of HCV RNA. In the abstract, in the foreground in the research results, the authors placed precisely the correlations of the MIC-1 content. Information on the relationship of the MIC-1 gene polymorphism with other factors is placed in the background by the authors. In this regard, it is not clear why the title of the article deals only with the MIC-1 gene polymorphism. The reviewer believes that it is advisable to bring the title of the article and its main results into conformity. The section "Research Results" contains many numbers and is difficult to understand. It makes sense for the authors to reformat the text of the research results to facilitate understanding of the data obtained. In the discussion, it makes sense to pay attention to why, in the future, it is necessary to study the polymorphism of the MIC-1 gene, and not be limited to determining its content.

In general, the impression of the work is positive. After minor corrections, it can be published in the World Journal of Gastroenterology.

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 57654

Title: Associations of content and gene polymorphism of macrophage inhibitory factor-1 and chronic hepatitis C virus infection

Reviewer's code: 02527808
Position: Editor-in-Chief
Academic degree: MD
Professional title: Professor
Reviewer's Country/Territory: Egypt
Author's Country/Territory: China
Manuscript submission date: 2020-06-18
Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ping Yan
Reviewer accepted review: 2020-08-02 03:03
Reviewer performed review: 2020-08-03 23:41
Review time: 1 Day and 20 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [Y] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y] Yes [ ] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The article studied macrophage inhibitory factor-1 (MIC-1) genetic polymorphism in association with chronic hepatitis C which is first time to study this genetic polymorphism in chronic HCV. but some comments to be considered 1-The title:it is not allowed to use abbreviation in the title {macrophage inhibitory factor-1 (MIC-1)} also the term correlation is not accurate better used Associations or variations. 2- Methods: The major defect in this study was the design of the groups; In the design of the study as regard patients with HCV the use of normal uninfected control is not recommendedThe problem of using healthy control subject is that about 80% of these subjects when exposed for the first time to HCV will develop chronicity while the rest showed spontaneous viral clearance (SVC).To overcome this inconstancy, subjects with Spontaneous viral clearance (SVC) should be compared to subjects with persistence of infection .so the study must include the following 3 groups: 1-chronic HCV patients:(cases with positive polymerase chain reaction [PCR] HCV >6 months), 2-controlgroup cases (cases with negative PCR HCV), 3-spontaneous virus clearance : group cases, who demonstrated HCV antibody positive but HCV-RNA negative in two successive samples at least 6 months apart. You can refer to this publication for better guidance for design of the study (The association of single nucleotide polymorphisms of Toll-like receptor 3, Toll-like receptor 7 and Toll-like receptor 8 genes with the susceptibility to HCV infection', British journal of biomedical science, 75: 175-81. 4-Hetrozygosity and polymorphic information content (PIC)were not calculated in all studied groups to determine whether the single nucleotide polymorphism was polymorphic enough for doing statistical analysis in chinase population. 5- The Bonferroni-corrected P value (Pc) is an adjustment made to P values when several dependent or independent statistical tests must be performed simultaneously on a single

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dataset. So the manuscript needs major revision