

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 58604

Title: HEV re-infection accelerates hepatocellular carcinoma development and relapse in a patient with liver cirrhosis: A case report and review of literature

Reviewer's code: 05290149

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2020-08-06

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-08-06 10:29

Reviewer performed review: 2020-08-10 02:20

Review time: 3 Days and 15 Hours

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 Grade E: Do not publish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 type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input 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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors present a rare but clinically significant case of liver cancer with HEV infection. It is hypothesized that HEV infection may play a role in the development and relapse of liver cancer. The present case report may verify the hypothesis although only one patient was demonstrated in the paper. The authors provide very detailed case data. However, the chronic HEV infection (as illustrated in the first sentence of Discussion) was undefined for the positive HEV-IgG and negative HEV-IgM but without HEV-RNA positive. I can not find the HEV-RNA result of this patients all over the paper. The reason of splenectomy in 2016 and Hepatoectomy was carried out after TACE and RFA in 2017 but not before should be demonstrated. AFP and PIVKA should be demonstrated in Table 1. Moreover, some sentence is confusing ,for instance, "In addition, no case of repeated HEV infection has been reported, evidence by persistent dual positivity of HEV-IgG and HEV-IgM" The paper should be carefully revised, for instance, blood pressure should be 122/85 mmHg better than 85/122 mmHg

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Title: HEV re-infection accelerates hepatocellular carcinoma development and relapse in a patient with liver cirrhosis: A case report and review of literature

Reviewer's code: 01564209

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Germany

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2020-08-06

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-08-06 07:05

Reviewer performed review: 2020-08-12 10:15

Review time: 6 Days and 3 Hours

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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input 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



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Drs. Lin and colleagues have presented an case report in which they report on HEV re-infection accelerating HCC development in a patient with LC. The case was a 53-years old male farmer initially diagnosed with LC and splenomegaly and HBV and HCV negative but HEV-IgG positive. After one year follow-up progressive HCC was diagnosed with anti-HEV IgM and IgG positivity. From these data the authors concluded that HV re-infection might accelerate HCC. Overall the manuscript is well written and concise in its content. The title reflects the main subject of the case report and the abstract summarizes the content of the report well. However, there are some comments which should be addressed. Comments 1. An ethical approval is missing in the text. 2. The authors speculate that the farmer have been infected previously before the onset of LC and HCC by HEV. It would be important to know which HEV genotype was responsible for the positive HEV serology. Therefore if the HEV infection went chronically it could only be by HEV genotype 3 or 4. Therefore HEV genotyping by NAT would be necessary. 3. No data was given whether the patient survived?

RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 58604

Title: HEV re-infection accelerates hepatocellular carcinoma development and relapse in a patient with liver cirrhosis: A case report and review of literature

Reviewer's code: 01564209

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Germany

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2020-08-06

Reviewer chosen by: Pan Huang

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-10-09 11:33

Reviewer performed review: 2020-10-09 11:38

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



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I have reexamined the revised version of the manuscript and have seen that my suggestions were kindly taken and appropriately fulfilled. I have no further suggestions.