

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

January 8th, 2014



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 5870-review.doc).

Title: PATHOGENESIS AND SIGNIFICANCE OF HCV STEATOSIS
An update on survival strategy of a successful pathogen

Authors: Amedeo Lonardo, Luigi Elio Adinolfi, Luciano Restivo, Stefano Ballestri, Dante Romagnoli, Enrica Baldelli, Fabio Nascimbeni, Paola Loria

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 5870

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer as detailed below:

REVIEWER 1

We thank Reviewer 1 for his/her suggestion. This topic is less studied than steatosis and nevertheless a few reports describe prevalence and determinants of steatohepatitis in HCV infection. We summarized such studies in a novel table (Table 4) and added, at page 11, a short paragraph of 157 words entitled 7. HCV AND STEATOHEPATITIS.

As requested, the text of the figure legends has been incorporated in the main text of our revised submission.

The text was checked several times and all the mistakes were corrected. Moreover, the manuscript has been further submitted to re-editing by an English mother tongue professional, as separately certified.

We added the appropriate reference to the study by Okuda^[39]

REVIEWER 2

In order to address Reviewer's 2 comments, another Table (Table 3) was added, specifically highlighting the diversity of steatogenic activity according to HCV genotype involved. Moreover, a short, fully referenced paragraph was added at the end of paragraph 2, page 5, stating that both viral and host features affect steatosis risk. Moreover, while little is known on the impact of HCADS on HCV life cycle, it is increasingly being recognized that the individual components of the HCADS tend to facilitate HCV survival.

REVIEWER 3

We have softened the conclusion as suggested by Reviewer 3.

Based on this Reviewer's suggestion, we have changed the pronoun with the sentence "patients with HCV chronic infection" .

We have rephrased both points qualifying HCV genotype 3 and completely rewording the text by stating that genotype 3 of HCV is associated with steatosis more often and that such a steatosis has a more extensive grade.

The verb "to feature" has been replaced with "to exhibit". Although not a definite evidence for a HCV genotype 3 direct inhibition of MTP, data reported here may circumstantially suggest such a biological effect.

This paragraph (Page 9) was entirely re-written.

This paragraph (Page 10, subheading 5) was entirely re-written as well .

We were alluding to steatosis, as we have better clarified in Revised 1 version of our manuscript.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the World Journal of Gastroenterology.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. LONARDO', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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