



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Clinical Cases

**Manuscript NO:** 64123

**Title:** Type 2 diabetes mellitus increases liver transplant-free mortality in patients with cirrhosis: A systematic review and meta-analysis of cohort studies

**Reviewer's code:** 05387405

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MSc

**Professional title:** Research Scientist

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Hungary

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-02-09

**Reviewer chosen by:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-03-30 11:06

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-04-01 18:01

**Review time:** 2 Days and 6 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<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
<b>Conclusion</b>	<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
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	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](mailto:bpgoffice@wjgnet.com)

**https://**[www.wjgnet.com](http://www.wjgnet.com)

#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Authors conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis of T2DM and liver cirrhosis complications. The manuscript is well-written, with good English. I recommend publishing the article. My only suggestion is that the paragraph of “Quality of Studies” should be merged with the previous one, one-sentence paragraphs should be avoided.



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**Name of journal:** World Journal of Clinical Cases

**Manuscript NO:** 64123

**Title:** Type 2 diabetes mellitus increases liver transplant-free mortality in patients with cirrhosis: A systematic review and meta-analysis of cohort studies

**Reviewer's code:** 00003629

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Emeritus Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Greece

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-02-09

**Reviewer chosen by:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-03-30 18:31

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-04-11 15:50

**Review time:** 11 Days and 21 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<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
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<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA  
**Telephone:** +1-925-399-1568  
**E-mail:** bpgoffice@wjgnet.com  
**https://**www.wjgnet.com

## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The article by Zi-jin Liu et al. is a meta-analysis of published work concerning the outcome of patients with cirrhosis and type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) compared to patients with cirrhosis alone. The authors make a remarkable effort to collect all papers concerning their subject and to select among them the ones complying to preset strict criteria. The subject is clinically interesting, but apparently the literature was not ripe enough to help the authors in their task. The number of relevant articles was small and quite heterogenous in order to end-up with robust results. The authors conclude that T2DM patients with cirrhosis have higher mortality and propensity for hepatocellular carcinoma compared to patients with cirrhosis alone. Differences in episodes of secondary bacterial peritonitis, development of ascites, variceal bleeding and hepatic encephalopathy did not reach statistical significance. The article is short, well written, but leaves several questions unanswered as expressed bellow.

A. General Comments: English language needs further improvement.

B. Major Comments:

1. (Page 6, line 2): I suppose that at baseline both T2DM and noT2DM patients would have been in a compensated cirrhosis state and without past events related to complications of cirrhosis.
2. (Page 8, line 3): In order to compare the outcome of cirrhotic patients with or without diabetes type 2, one should verify that both groups were similar at baseline. That means that the authors must pay attention to the following items:
  - i. Was the state of glucose regulation of diabetic patients similar in all articles used in this meta-analysis? The HbA1c% in all studies must appear in the text and table 1. This note refers especially for the SBP comparisons.
  - ii. Was the gravity of cirrhosis similar in the tested (DM) and the control (non-DM) group? The Child-Pugh class and/or the MELD score must appear in the text and analyzed accordingly.
  - iii. Please make sure and mention it in the text that mortality was liver-related and not overall mortality. It is already well known that



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160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA

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**E-mail:** [bpgoffice@wjgnet.com](mailto:bpgoffice@wjgnet.com)

**https://**[www.wjgnet.com](http://www.wjgnet.com)

cirrhotic patients with T2DM die mainly of cardiovascular complications. iv. What was the underlying cause of chronic liver disease? In order to have sound results both groups must have had similar etiology of liver disease. Otherwise, groups are not comparable C. Minor Comments: 1. (Page 3, line 2): The word “Therefore” is inappropriate. The sentence which follows is not a consequence of the previous sentence. Consider change. 2. (Page 6, lines 15-16): What kind of etiology? Do you mean “etiology of underlying liver disease”? Please clarify.