



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 65156

Title: Neuropilin-1: a feasible link between liver pathologies and COVID-19

Reviewer's code: 05848944

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Researcher

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United States

Author's Country/Territory: Spain

Manuscript submission date: 2021-02-28

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-03-01 13:09

Reviewer performed review: 2021-03-17 11:42

Review time: 15 Days and 22 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 Grade E: Do not publish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



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The review paper entitled “Neuropilin-1: a feasible link between liver pathologies and COVID-19 ” by Benedicto et al. summarized the liver-related physiological and pathological function of NRP-1, discussed the involvement of liver NRP-1 in the SARS-CoV-2 infection, and how touched on the possible roles of NRP-1 in the SARS-CoV-2 induced liver damage. The manuscript cited a broad range of recent evidence and linked them with the known function of NRP-1. It provides interesting mechanistic insights on the link between liver pathologies with SARS-COV-2 infection. This manuscript would benefit from addressing these concerns and comments detailed below. Major comments 1) This review seemed to focus on a) NRP-1 expression is induced by pre-existing liver diseases, which promotes liver SARS-CoV-2 infection and injury; b) NRP-1 expression is induced by the cytokine storm after SAR-CoV-2 infection. NRP-1 itself is a key signaling molecule involved in the liver damage. It would be better to re-structure the abstract/introduction or the paragraphs to make the major points of the manuscript clearer and more cohesive. 2) It would be better to expand the discussion on the upregulation of NRP-1 expression by different liver diseases. 3) In the first section, the authors spent large efforts on discussing the general physiological functions of NRP-1 in the liver, which somehow diluted the focus of this manuscript on its role in COVID-19. 4) In many cases, COVID-19, the disease with SARS-CoV-2 infection, is miss-used. For example, “COVID-19 infection” should be “SARS-CoV-2 infection”. It should be checked and corrected throughout the manuscript. Minor comments 1) Page 7, HIF-1alpha or HIR-2alpha? 2) These sentences should be re-written

- Page 5, “Although in the latter NRP-1...”
- Page 14, “However, they suggested that this increase...”
- Page 16, “Regarding NRP-1 expression, VEGF...”
- Page 17, “The recently linked with...”



RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Researcher

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United States

Author's Country/Territory: Spain

Manuscript submission date: 2021-02-28

Reviewer chosen by: Ze-Mao Gong

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-04-19 12:37

Reviewer performed review: 2021-04-19 12:43

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 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

I have no further comments.