

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



November 25, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (Non-invasive diagnosis of hepatitis B virus-related cirrhosis).

Title: Non-invasive diagnosis of hepatitis B virus-related cirrhosis

Author: Sangheun Lee, Do Young Kim

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6650

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

(1) Introduction about poor performance of liver biopsy is a little bit not appropriate, as liver biopsy is the gold standard to which it refers the performance of the other methods.

Response) We fully appreciate the valuable comments from the reviewer. We described the limitation of liver biopsy in a roundabout way that it is necessary to investigate the new diagnostic methods for improving the limitations and complications of liver biopsy.

(2) portal hypertensions cannot be graded according to elastographic finding, probably because, beyond the role of liver stiffness, increase in portal vein flow and splanchnic vasodilatation contribute. this could be commented by the authors

Response) We fully appreciate the valuable comments from the reviewer. We described portal hypertensions could not be graded according to liver stiffness, but a significant linear correlation was evident between spleen stiffness and varices grade.

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 'Kim', is enclosed in a light gray rectangular box.

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