

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**Manuscript NO:** 74800

**Title:** Metabolic Aspects of Hepatitis C Virus

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 00159278

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-01-06

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-01-07 07:46

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-01-17 19:51

**Review time:** 10 Days and 12 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I was asked to review the paper entitled : “Metabolic Aspects of Hepatitis C Virus”. It is an interesting paper, however I think there are some things that can be improved; Major comments: 1. Page 5, last paragraph: You say “ In this context, a high prevalence of cirrhosis and non-SVR was observed among patients with diabetes and CHC”. It should be mentioned that the rate of SVR is indeed lower in patients with insulin resistance, but only in Interferon based treatment. It seems that SVR rates following DAA are not influenced by IR (PMID: 30024489) 2. Page 6, end of first paragraph you say: “Consequently, further evidence from long-term follow-up studies is still required to determine if successful eradication of HCV can help to ameliorate IR and improve glycemic control and clinical outcomes in patients with established DM2.28, 29”. Several studies have proven better control of DM and amelioration of IR following SVR and I think they should be discussed (DOI: 10.1080/14787210.2018.1505500; DOI: 10.1016/S1665-2681(19)31578-9; <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0209216>) 3. Page 7, first paragraph, you say: “Studies reported that steatosis may improve and even disappear following successful antiviral treatment with interferon and ribavirin; however, data on direct acting antivirals are still limited.34, 35”. References you quoted refer to peg IFN treatment only, not DAA. Suggested references that should be discussed: DOI: 10.15761/JTS.1000194; doi: 10.1097/MEG.0000000000001106; <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-93881-7>; <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0209615> Minor comments: 1. Paragraph with Insulin resistance, you say: “IR is associated with HCV infection in up to 80% of cases”, I think that correct wording is “HCV infection is associated with IR in up to 80% of cases” 2. English polishing is needed to avoid awkward wording such as: - page 5, first



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paragraph: "the systemic burden of hepatitis C infection surpasses its liver disease burden because it is a major burden on the overall health of the human body, causing increased economic burden to patients and healthcare systems" - page 6, second paragraph: "Not only are IR and DM are more prevalent in the course of HCV infection...." - page 8, last paragraph: "Plausible explanations include the feasibility of adipose tissue to promote fatty substrates...." -page 9, last paragraph: "HCV infection can be an independent risk factor for increased carotid IMT<sup>49</sup> and cerebrovascular deaths<sup>50</sup>, as reported in many types of study; ....." - page 11, second paragraph: "There is a high incidence rate of sarcopenia, of up to 70%, in patients with cirrhosis. Dasarathy S. Cause and management of muscle wasting in chronic liver diseases."

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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05769618

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Lecturer

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-01-06

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-01-26 12:11

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-02-03 08:21

**Review time:** 7 Days and 20 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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
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statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

#### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

• in Abstract section, author mentioned insulin resistance in Keywords section, however, reviewers do not identify the explanation of insulin resistance does not found in the abstract section, please clarified and revised • author should mention the full name and abbreviation of HCC in the second paragraph of abstract • please mention the VLDL by full name in the page number 8 • page number 9. Please add vitamin D by the role of Vitamin D • please mention more detail the acknowledgments • please add the DOI in the reference number 10, 17, 20, 21, 22, 27, 32, 38, 4153, • please make sure the graphical abstract is more visualize and more attractive. The current version is not well organized, please fixed, such as iron metabolism reproductive status and menopause and insulin resistance does not have figures.

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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05562744

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** FACS, MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Professor, Senior Scientist

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-01-06

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-01-27 00:41

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-02-03 10:07

**Review time:** 7 Days and 9 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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
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Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

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

Title: well presented Abstract: needs language revision Introduction: generally well written but fe grammatic errors are present The present study is minireview summarizing the metabolic effects of HCV infection. The quality of the article is very well but language is the main problem and needs revision