

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Hepatology*

Manuscript NO: 79531

Title: Rising incidence, progression and changing patterns of liver disease in Wales 1999-2019

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05847926

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: United Kingdom

Manuscript submission date: 2022-08-25

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-09-20 03:12

Reviewer performed review: 2022-09-29 09:06

Review time: 9 Days and 5 Hours

Scientific quality	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="radio"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="radio"/> Grade C: Good <input type="radio"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="radio"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Judgment by peer reviewers	Does this manuscript meet the code of ethics standards? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Does this manuscript have important novelty? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Does this manuscript have important creativity or innovation?

	<input type="checkbox"/> [31] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [30] No Does this manuscript use reliable research methods? <input type="checkbox"/> [41] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [40] No Are the manuscript-accompanying data and figures authentic? <input type="checkbox"/> [51] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [50] No Does this manuscript make scientifically significant conclusions? <input type="checkbox"/> [61] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [60] No
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] 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"/> [Y] Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Liver disease incidence and hence demand on hepatology services is increasing. This study proposed a methodology for a national liver registry populated by routinely coded hospital and death certificate liver disease diagnoses, and have found that the incidence of liver disease has increased 3.6-fold between 1999 and 2019. The study was to develop novel insights into the changing aetiology and progression of liver disease, hence providing an analytic pipeline that will allow assessment of public health interventions, define clinical service requirements and aid redesign. good work !

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Hepatology*

Manuscript NO: 79531

Title: Rising incidence, progression and changing patterns of liver disease in Wales 1999-2019

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05673135

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Switzerland

Author's Country/Territory: United Kingdom

Manuscript submission date: 2022-08-25

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-09-30 15:58

Reviewer performed review: 2022-10-12 12:26

Review time: 11 Days and 20 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
Judgment by peer reviewers	Does this manuscript meet the code of ethics standards? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Does this manuscript have important novelty? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Does this manuscript have important creativity or innovation?

	<input type="checkbox"/> [J31] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [J30] No Does this manuscript use reliable research methods? <input type="checkbox"/> [J41] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [J40] No Are the manuscript-accompanying data and figures authentic? <input type="checkbox"/> [J51] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [J50] No Does this manuscript make scientifically significant conclusions? <input type="checkbox"/> [J61] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [J60] No
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] 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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This study aims to describe the incidence and natural history of liver diseases in Wales, which can inform the provision of hepatology services. The focus is on presenting all etiologies and stages of chronic liver disease. In addition, the authors intend to present a novel methodology for developing a national registry. The epidemiological aspects of the manuscript need improvement. The authors present the number of cases over the years, but the population (estimates) are not provided. Incidence rates are needed (number of new cases / estimated population) – not just the number of new cases per year. This is a shortcoming of the manuscript. It will be hard to review this paper critically until this adjustment is made. However, the graph with the percent distribution of the different diagnoses of liver disease is well done. In addition, a clear explanation of the novel system is missing. For example, how is it novel/different from what is

currently being done in Wales and in other parts of the UK/world? Specific suggestions: Please use hyphens consistently (ICD-10) and make word plural in Abbreviations (Diseases); capitalize Office of National Statistics; alcohol-related, liver-related (with a hyphen) The authors refer to 20 years of data, but 1999-2019 is equivalent to 21 years. Figure 1 needs to be revised so that the different diagnoses are on the same level. Currently, they are vertical, which is misleading. Cut back on the number of tables and figures. Please shorten the manuscript – it is too long.