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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery*

Manuscript NO: 82183

Title: Differential expression and significance of 5-hydroxymethylcytosine modification in hepatitis B virus carriers and patients with liver cirrhosis and liver cancer

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06143350
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: MD, PhD
Professional title: Associate Professor
Reviewer's Country/Territory: Germany
Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-12-12

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-12-16 10:04

Reviewer performed review: 2023-01-03 11:09

Review time: 18 Days and 1 Hour

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [Y] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y] Yes [ ] No

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Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this interesting study, the authors analyzed the potential genes and signaling pathways related to DNA hydroxymethylation in serum samples of HBsAg-positive carriers, patients with liver cirrhosis, and patients with liver cancer to explore the possible mechanism of HBV-carrying status and the development from liver cirrhosis to liver cancer. The study is designed well, and the results are very interesting. The reviewer recommends to accept this study after a minor revision. 1. There are some minor language polishing which require a minor editing. 2. The data in results are well discussed, however, the references should be updated. 3. The figures are good; however, the images should be updated with high resolution ratio images.

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Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06143326
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: MD, PhD
Professional title: Associate Professor
Reviewer's Country/Territory: Thailand
Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-12-12

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-12-16 10:05

Reviewer performed review: 2023-01-03 11:09

Review time: 18 Days and 1 Hour

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [Y] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [Y] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[ ] Yes [Y] No

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Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting study of 5-hydroxymethylcytosine modification in HBV carriers and liver cirrhosis and liver cancer patients. The study is well performed. This study showed that the 5hmC modification of genes in the liver digestion-related pathway may be most closely related to the occurrence and development of liver cancer. The findings are interesting. After a minor editing, this manuscript can be accepted.