



February 25, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 8401-review.docx).

Title: Molecular epidemiology of hepatitis B virus in Asia

Author: Takako Utsumi, Yoshihiko Yano, Hak Hotta

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Medical Genetics*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 8401

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) **Comment:** Interesting article. I just have one little comment on antiviral therapy: aren't adefovir and tenofovir available in Asia? I think all NA should be mentioned in the article.

Answer: We appreciate the comment and suggestion. Adefovir, tenofovir and telbivudine have additionally been mentioned in the revised manuscript (p.9, l.192; l.196-198; l.202-206).

(2) **Comment:** The paper gives a comprehensive overview of the Hepatitis B subtypes that predominate in South-East Asia. It is well-written and provides a good understanding of the global burden on health of HBV and its varying clinical presentation.

Answer: We appreciate the kind comment.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

4 Also, we have described additional acknowledgements for funding supports in the revised manuscript (p.1, l.18-21).

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

Hak Hotta, M.D., Ph.D.

Professor, Division of Microbiology

Kobe University Graduate School of Medicine

7-5-1 Kusunoki-cho, Chuo-ku, Kobe 650-0017, Japan

Fax: +81-78-382-5519

E-mail: <hotta@kobe-u.ac.jp>