

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery*

**Manuscript NO:** 88125

**Title:** Association between the early high level of serum tacrolimus and recurrence of hepatocellular carcinoma in ABO-incompatible liver transplantation

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

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 03721089

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Attending Doctor

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

**Author's Country/Territory:** South Korea

**Manuscript submission date:** 2023-09-11

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2023-09-11 14:50

**Reviewer performed review:** 2023-09-20 11:27

**Review time:** 8 Days and 20 Hours

Scientific quality	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation

<b>Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The design of this clinical study is innovative and has certain clinical value. This study explored the association between the early high level of serum tacrolimus and recurrence of hepatocellular carcinoma in ABO-incompatible liver transplantation. And found that patients with high tacrolimus concentrations at 4 weeks had significantly poor recurrence free survival after propensity score matching. This may indicate that careful monitoring and control of tacrolimus levels are imperative in ABOi LT recipients with HCC. The results of this study may have clinical application value. However, there are some shortcomings in this study. The results of this single-center study with a small sample size may be biased. In addition, there are many influencing factors and confounding factors in this study, and the authenticity of the research results needs to be further verified. 1.It is suggested to further enlarge the sample size and adjust for confounding factors to improve the reliability of the study results. 2.In addition, it is suggested that the discussion part of this study should be further discussed based on the research results, and compared with the relevant researches at home and abroad.

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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05755592

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** FCPS, MBBS

**Professional title:** Assistant Professor

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

**Author's Country/Territory:** South Korea

**Manuscript submission date:** 2023-09-11

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2023-09-30 13:49

**Reviewer performed review:** 2023-10-04 12:26

**Review time:** 3 Days and 22 Hours

Scientific quality	<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
Novelty of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation

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	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

#### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I will congratulate the authors for such a well designed study and well written manuscript. The manuscript is novel and the have also collected long follow of these patients which is something very vital in such sort of studies. Also, the authors have carried univariate and multivariate analysis for determining factors responsible for difference of outcome in various groups.