



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 72992

Title: Similarities, differences, and possible interactions between hepatitis E and hepatitis C viruses: relevance for research and clinical practice

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06139511

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Assistant Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: India

Author's Country/Territory: Italy

Manuscript submission date: 2021-11-05

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-11-07 01:36

Reviewer performed review: 2021-11-15 10:22

Review time: 8 Days and 8 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 Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



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Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This review article is on a novel topic which is not dealt with in much detail. The manuscript does make an attempt to address most of the salient features of both viruses and highlight areas where they might overlap. However the discussion on the speculative overlap between the two viruses and how they could be affecting each other is lacking. There has been proposed model or concept. Table 2 could do with more details.



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Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03260869

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, MSc

Professional title: Doctor, Full Professor, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Egypt

Author's Country/Territory: Italy

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Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-11-16 05:18

Reviewer performed review: 2021-11-24 17:15

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Scientific quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input 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
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It was very interesting to read the manuscript titled “Similarities, differences, and possible interactions between HEV and HCV: what is the relevance for research and clinical practice?”. It is a very well-written manuscript with plethora of knowledge and references despite the paucity of work on the subject. I have few comments on the manuscript written below. The main point is that the authors need to revise the abbreviations and provide a list to avoid confusion. Page 3, line 21: HCV hepatitis; change to HCV hepatitis Page 4: Moreover, since the main limitation of the epidemiological surveys conducted so far is that only antibody tests were used [19, 37], coinfections and the effect of both viruses on liver disease progression should be better evaluated using direct detection of HCV and HEV RNA by molecular assays. Authors should elaborate more on the different methods (kits) used for determination of HEV IgG and their limitations. Page 7: HEV/HCV coinfection can worsen the prognosis of hepatic and extrahepatic diseases [2, 3]. Change to “can worsen” Page 8: Lastly, at molecular level, miRNAs play a pivotal role in the progression of liver diseases [59]. The roles of the microRNAs are still under study, but it was already speculated that miR-628-3p, miR-194, miR-151-3p, miR-512-3p, miR-335 and miR-590 are potentially involved in HCV/HEV coinfection [60]. microRNAs should be written in full at first mention, with abbreviation between brackets. Page 9: The HCV RFs have been reported in few cases around the world, thus pathogenesis and therapy efficacy are not well characterized. Two patients infected by RF 2b/1b achieved viral clearance with an interferon-free regimen [67]. In contrast, a patient infected by the same RF failed two different interferon-free regimens [68]. No previous mention of RF as an abbreviation.



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