

Subject:World Journal of Gastroenterology Manuscript NO: 63962 – Notification on manuscript revision

Mail Body: Dear Dr. Hamoudi,

We are pleased to inform you that, after preview by the Editorial Office and peer review, as well as CrossCheck and Google plagiarism detection, we believe that the academic quality, language quality, and ethics of your manuscript (Manuscript NO.: 63962, Basic Study) basically meet the publishing requirements of the World Journal of Gastroenterology. As such, we have made the preliminary decision that it is acceptable for publication after your appropriate revision. Upon our receipt of your revised manuscript, we will send it for re-review. We will then make a final decision on whether to accept the manuscript or not, based on the reviewers' comments, the quality of the revised manuscript, and the relevant documents. Please follow the steps outlined below to revise your manuscript to meet the requirements for final acceptance and publication.

1 MANUSCRIPT REVISION DEADLINE

We request that you submit your revision in no more than 14 days. Please note that you have only two chances for revising the manuscript.

2 PLEASE SELECT TO REVISE THIS MANUSCRIPT OR NOT

Please login to the F6Publishing system at <https://www.f6publishing.com> by entering your registered E-mail and password. After clicking on the "Author Login" button, please click on "Manuscripts Needing Revision" under the "Revisions" heading to find your manuscript that needs revision. Clicking on the "Handle" button allows you to choose to revise this manuscript or not. If you choose not to revise your manuscript, please click on the "Decline" button, and the manuscript will be WITHDRAWN.

3 SCIENTIFIC QUALITY

Please resolve all issues in the manuscript based on the peer review report and make a point-by-point response to the issues raised in the peer review report. Authors must resolve all issues in the manuscript that are raised in the peer-review report(s) and make point-by-point responses to the issues raised in the peer-review report(s), which are listed below:

Reviewer #1:

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)

Conclusion: Accept (General priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: Using a previously published dataset, the authors investigated the transcriptome of liver samples from severe COVID-19 and non-COVID patients. Using in silico techniques, they compared the profile of genes expressed by COVID-19 patients with the genetic signatures of other liver diseases. To test the finding they investigated the expression of some of those genes in blood samples of healthy, severe COVID-19 patients with and without liver dysfunction using qRT-PCR. The study poses some limitations as the low number of samples investigated, in both parts (liver samples and blood samples), and the lack of some protein analyses. Nevertheless, the manuscript is very clear

and objective, with interesting data for the investigation of hepatic dysfunction in COVID-19 patients and their molecular mechanisms.

> We thank the reviewer for their kind words and very glad that they feel the manuscript has objectivity and the data generated is of interest for the investigation of hepatic dysfunction in COVID-19 patients and highlight the molecular mechanisms.

4 LANGUAGE QUALITY

Please resolve all language issues in the manuscript based on the peer review report. Please be sure to have a native-English speaker edit the manuscript for grammar, sentence structure, word usage, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, format, and general readability, so that the manuscript's language will meet our direct publishing needs.

> We checked the linguistic aspects of the manuscript with native English speaker and ensured that he revised version is linguistically accurate

5 EDITORIAL OFFICE'S COMMENTS

Authors must revise the manuscript according to the Editorial Office's comments and suggestions, which are listed below:

(1) Science editor: 1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a Basic Study of Hepatic Dysfunction Mechanisms in Severe COVID-19. The topic is within the scope of the WJG. (1) Classification: Grade B; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: The manuscript is very clear and objective, with interesting data for the investigation of hepatic dysfunction in COVID-19 patients and their molecular mechanisms. (3) Format: There are 2 tables and 9 figures; (4) References: A total of 52 references are cited, including 27 references published in the last 3 years; (5) Self-cited references: There is no self-cited reference; and (6) References recommendations (kindly remind): The authors have the right to refuse to cite improper references recommended by the peer reviewer(s), especially references published by the peer reviewer(s) him/herself (themselves). If the authors find the peer reviewer(s) request for the authors to cite improper references published by him/herself (themselves), please send the peer reviewer's ID number to editorialoffice@wjgnet.com. The Editorial Office will close and remove the peer reviewer from the F6Publishing system immediately. 2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade A. The manuscript is reviewed by a native English speaker. 3 Academic norms and rules: The authors provided the Biostatistics Review Certificate and the Institutional Review Board Approval Form. No academic misconduct was found in the Bing search. 4 Supplementary comments: The study was supported by University of Sharjah, Sharjah Research Academy, University of Sharjah and Al-Jalila Foundation Seed Grant. The topic has not previously been published in the WJG. 5

Issues raised: (1) The authors did not provide the approved grant application form(s).

> We have uploaded the approved grant applications relate to this project

Please upload the approved grant application form(s) or funding agency copy of any approval document(s); and (2) The authors did not provide original pictures. Please provide the original figure

documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor.

> We have uploaded the figures in Powerpoint format

6 Recommendation: Conditional acceptance.

(2) Editorial office director:

(3) Company editor-in-chief: I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Gastroenterology, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors.

6 STEPS FOR SUBMITTING REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Step 1: Author Information

Please click and download the Format for authorship, institution, and corresponding author guidelines, and further check if the authors names and institutions meet the requirements of the journal.

Step 2: Manuscript Information

Please check if the manuscript information is correct.

Step 3: Abstract, Main Text, and Acknowledgements

(a) Guidelines for revising the content: Please download the guidelines for Original articles; Review articles; and Case report articles for your specific manuscript type (Basic Study) at: <https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/GerInfo/291>. Please further revise your manuscript according to the guidelines for revising the content.

(b) Format for Manuscript Revision: Please update the format of your manuscript according to the guidelines and requirements for manuscript revision and the format for manuscript revision. Please visit <https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/GerInfo/291> for the article type-specific guidelines and formatting examples.

(c) Requirements for article highlights: If your manuscript is an original study (basic study or clinical study), meta-analysis, or systemic review, the "Article Highlights" section should be provided. Detailed writing requirements for "Article Highlights" can be found in the Guidelines and Requirements for Manuscript Revision.

Step 4: References

Please revise the references according to the Format for references guidelines, and be sure to edit the reference using the reference auto-analyser.

Step 5: Footnotes and Figure Legends

(a) Requirements for figures: Please provide decomposable Figures (whose parts are all movable and editable), organize them into a single PowerPoint file, and submit as “63962-Figures.ppt” on the system. The figures should be uploaded to the file destination of “Image File”.

(b) Requirements for tables: Please provide decomposable Tables (whose parts are all movable and editable), organize them into a single Word file, and submit as “63962-Tables.docx” on the system. The tables should be uploaded to the file destination of “Table File”.

Step 6: Automatically Generate Full Text Files

Please download the “Full Text File” or click “Preview” to ensure all the contents of the manuscript automatically generated by the system are correct and meet the requirements of the journal.

Step 7: Upload the Revision Files

For all required accompanying documents (listed below), you can begin the uploading process via the F6Publishing system. Then, please download all the uploaded documents to ensure all of them are correct.

(1) 63962-Answering Reviewers

(2) 63962-Audio Core Tip

(3) 63962-Biostatistics Review Certificate

(4) 63962-Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form

(5) 63962-Copyright License Agreement

(6) 63962-Approved Grant Application Form(s) or Funding Agency Copy of any Approval Document(s)

(7) 63962-Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Approval Form or Document

(8) 63962-Institutional Review Board Approval Form or Document

(9) 63962-Non-Native Speakers of English Editing Certificate

(10) 63962-Video

(11) 63962-Image File

(12) 63962-Table File

(13) 63962-The ARRIVE Guidelines

(14) 63962-Supplementary Material

If your manuscript has supportive foundations, the approved grant application form(s) or funding agency copy of any approval document(s) must be provided. Otherwise, we will delete the supportive foundations.

If your manuscript has no “Video” or “Supplementary Material”, you don’t need to submit those two types of documents.

7 COPYRIGHT LICENSE AGREEMENT

Please click and download the Copyright License Agreement Form. Subsequently, a PDF (scanned) version of the Copyright License Agreement Form that has been signed by all authors should be uploaded to the file destination of 'Copyright License Agreement'.

8 CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM

Please click and download the fillable ICMJE Form for Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest (PDF), and fill it in. The Corresponding Author is responsible for filling out this form. Once filled out completely, the Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form should be uploaded to the file destination of 'Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form'.

Best regards,

Lian-Sheng Ma, Science Editor, Company Editor-in-Chief, Editorial Office

Baishideng Publishing Group Inc

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA

Telephone: +1-925-399-1568

E-mail: l.s.ma@wjgnet.com

Help desk: <https://www.f6publishing.com/helpdesk>

Online Submission: <https://www.f6publishing.com/>

<https://www.wjgnet.com>

About the BPG

Publisher: We are one of the world's leading editorial and publishing companies specializing in clinical medicine, with 28 years of experience in editing and publishing. We have a carefully perfected editorial and publishing management system, an AI-based peer review system and online publishing system, as well as a post-publication peer review system and author feedback system. We now publish 46 English-language journals, of which 7 are indexed in Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) and 23 are indexed in PubMed and PubMed Central (PMC).

Publication fees: All our journals are open-access. If an unsolicited manuscript meets any of the following requirements, the publication fees will be reduced by 10%: Supported by a fund of national level or above; Having a corresponding author who is a member of an association of national level or above; Having a first author who is a young scholar under 45 years-old; Or, having a corresponding author who is a member of the editorial board or who serves as a peer reviewer. For more information on the article processing charge, please visit: <https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/242>.

Senior scholars/Peer-reviewers: Currently, the BPG has 33829 senior scholars/peer-reviewers. For more information on the senior scholars/peer-reviewers listings, please visit: <https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/SeniorScholarStatistics>.

Membership: The BPG is an internationally recognized professional publishing company, and it is a member of CrossRef, Committee on Publication Ethics, Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association, and Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers.