

Manuscript NO: 61479

Manuscript Type: Minireviews

Title: Interaction between HBV and SARS-CoV-2 infections

January 9th, 2021

Dear Dr. Lian-Sheng,

Thank you for considering our manuscript entitled “Interaction between HBV and SARS-CoV-2 infections” for publication in *World Journal of Gastroenterology*. We appreciate the insightful critiques and comments from you and the reviewers, which helped us improve the quality of our manuscript.

We have addressed, point by point, the issues raised by the reviewers and **listed them below**. We have polished the English expression of our manuscript. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Xin Zheng, MD, PhD

Union Hospital, Tongji Medical College

Huazhong University of Science and Technology

Wuhan, China

Email:xin11@hotmail.com

REVIEWERS' COMMENTS:

Reviewer #1 :

1.The author summarized researches about SARS-CoV-2/HBV co-infection and explored the interaction between chronic hepatitis B and COVID-19, which bring some help for clinical doctors.

Response: Thank you for your positive comments.

2. This review show chronic HBV infection does not increase the severity and outcome of COVID-19 in most cases, but HBV reactivation in the course of COVID-19 need further research.

Response: Regarding HBV reactivation in the course of COVID-19, this aspect has so far been studied only rarely. Based on the available data, HBV reactivation is primarily due to a broken balance between the host's immune state and viral replication. We have made some additions to this section in our revised manuscript. To achieve more reliable conclusions, further studies are exactly needed in the future.