

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 14881

**Title:** Advanced HCC and sorafenib: Diagnosis, indications, clinical and radiological follow-up

**Reviewer's code:** 02861007

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Xue-Mei Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2014-11-01 11:42

**Date reviewed:** 2014-11-09 17:45

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	PubMed Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [ Y] Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [ Y] Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [ Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [ Y] No	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [ Y] No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It's a very good review on advances of Sorafenib and HCC therapy.

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 14881

**Title:** Advanced HCC and sorafenib: Diagnosis, indications, clinical and radiological follow-up

**Reviewer's code:** 02663375

**Reviewer's country:** Italy

**Science editor:** Xue-Mei Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2014-11-01 11:42

**Date reviewed:** 2014-12-02 21:10

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	PubMed Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a thorough review on sorafenib treatment for advanced HCC and I strongly recommend to publish it. There are several acronyms that should be spelled out at their first mention.

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 14881

**Title:** Advanced HCC and sorafenib: Diagnosis, indications, clinical and radiological follow-up

**Reviewer's code:** 02861055

**Reviewer's country:** Italy

**Science editor:** Xue-Mei Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2014-11-01 11:42

**Date reviewed:** 2014-12-12 01:40

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	PubMed Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Colagrande et al. submitted the manuscript entitled "Advanced HCC and sorafenib: diagnosis, indications, clinical and radiological follow-up" for peer review. The paper is an interesting review on the current utility of sorafenib in the treatment of advanced hepatocellular carcinoma. The manuscript provides also insights on the intrinsic clinical problems and limitations of sorafenib, and summarizes possible future improvements in its application. Despite the review is well structured, a number of minor issues need to be addressed and are listed below:

- The style of the manuscript appears too discursive, especially in the first two paragraphs. In order to keep the reader focused on the main messages of each section, the Authors should present data in a concise way and possibly give data about the clinical studies mentioned.
- In the section "Diagnosis, staging and treatment allocation" the Authors state "... some others consider TACE not safe in patients with so advanced disease and recommend this treatment only in patients with Child-Pugh A cirrhosis and segmental portal vein thrombosis". The use of TACE in the presence of neoplastic thrombi in the portal branches is controversial. The Authors should add more data to support their assumption, since the



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reference mentioned is too vague. - In the paragraph "Sorafenib treatment" the Authors state "this drug showed a significant improvement ..., but the number of partial responses in the treatment group was low (7 out of 299)". This assumption may result difficult to understand without showing the other results according to the RECIST criteria of the study mentioned. Moreover the proportion of the patient responding to sorafenib should be clearly stated. - The Authors should add references to the Table 1 and Table 2. - In order to help the reader in the interpretation of the radiological images, the Authors should provide the legends of Figure 2 and Figure 3. - The Authors should make sure that each abbreviation is expanded at first use in the manuscript and in the abstract. - The manuscript should be revised for English grammar errors. Moreover, the authors should avoid contractions of verbs and the use of adverbs (e.g. actually) that are more appropriate for spoken language. - The list of Authors and their affiliations should be indicated in the paper. The manuscript should be typed in 1.5 line spacing.

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 14881

**Title:** Advanced HCC and sorafenib: Diagnosis, indications, clinical and radiological follow-up

**Reviewer's code:** 02861409

**Reviewer's country:** Germany

**Science editor:** Xue-Mei Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2014-11-01 11:42

**Date reviewed:** 2014-12-15 17:59

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	PubMed Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
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		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Comments to the author: The given review is summarizing current information about therapy of advanced hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) with a special focus on sorafenib treatment. The review is subdivided into 7 parts (Introduction; diagnosis, staging and treatment allocation; sorafenib treatment; biochemical response evaluation parameters; imaging response evaluation parameters; sorafenib failure and second-line therapies; conclusion). However, several points need to be addressed prior to publication. -The abstract needs attention: Some words e.g. HCC has to be announced as hepatocellular carcinomas, trans-arterial radio embolization as TACE, AE as adverse events. The diagnosis of HCC is also defined by pathological parameters. -The key words have to be ordered alphabetical. -The introduction is not discussing the importance of the underlying liver diseases. -Why did the authors focus on the American HCC guidelines and the Japanese guidelines, but not on other international recommendations. -According to the recommendation of Bayer, Sorafenib treatment is not restricted to Child Pugh A patients, this is a very important point and has to be discussed in a proper way. -The authors have to explain exactly what the difference is



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between TARE and SIRT. What about combinational treatment of sorafenib + locoregional therapies. -Figure 2 and 3 are not really necessary to understand the review. -Figure 1: better keep potential second line therapies untitled. What is the meaning of other locoregional therapies ? -Table 1 Is lacking information about RFA. - Misspellings in the document have to be eliminated.