

# ESPS Peer-review Report

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6574

**Title:** Serum hepatitis B surface antigen level predicts treatment response to oral nucleos(t)ide analogues in chronic hepatitis B patients

**Reviewer code:** 02541915

**Science editor:** Ma, Ya-Juan

**Date sent for review:** 2013-10-25 18:11

**Date reviewed:** 2013-11-04 08:41

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<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"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Chen and colleagues reviewed the literature on the use of HBsAg quantification in the treatment of chronic hepatitis B with nucleos(t)ide analogues. Studies on the use of HBsAg quantification for predicting virological response, HBeAg loss or seroconversion and HBsAg loss on-treatment, and HBsAg loss and virological relapse off-treatment were presented followed by a summary after each of the main sections. This article is relevant to clinical practice and would be of interest to those in the field. I have the following comments: 1. The author should present the detailed information of the studies discussed in each of the main sections in table form instead and only include the most important information in the text. 2. The author suggested that a 6- to 12- monthly assessment of quantitative HBsAg level could be considered to monitor nucleos(t)ide analogue therapy. I suggest a more conservative stand until more studies become available to better define the use of this test in clinical practice. 3. There were obvious spelling and grammatical errors throughout the manuscript that should be corrected prior to publication.

**ESPS Peer-review Report**

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6574

**Title:** Serum hepatitis B surface antigen level predicts treatment response to oral nucleos(t)ide analogues in chronic hepatitis B patients

**Reviewer code:** 00225318

**Science editor:** Ma, Ya-Juan

**Date sent for review:** 2013-10-25 18:11

**Date reviewed:** 2013-11-07 12:57

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<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"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This revision d Chien-Hung et al is very interesting and well documented and it seems an excellent idea the inclusion of short summaries after each of the different sections. In this regard, it would be interesting the inclusion as figures, information boxes, with the main conclusions of these short summaries. Additional comments: The legend of Table 1 consists of a conclusion but does not specify the contents of the table to be displayed, since in that legend is only states that HBsAg predict relapse after stopping HBV nucleos (t) ide analoges (NA) therapy but includes other studies that are not related to this claim.

**ESPS Peer-review Report**

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6574

**Title:** Serum hepatitis B surface antigen level predicts treatment response to oral nucleos(t)ide analogues in chronic hepatitis B patients

**Reviewer code:** 00032020

**Science editor:** Ma, Ya-Juan

**Date sent for review:** 2013-10-25 18:11

**Date reviewed:** 2013-11-14 09:02

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
[ Y] Grade A (Excellent)	[ Y] Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	[ Y] Accept
[ ] Grade B (Very good)	[ ] Grade B: minor language polishing	[ ] Existed	[ ] High priority for publication
[ ] Grade C (Good)	[ ] Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	[ ] No records	[ ] Rejection
[ ] Grade D (Fair)	[ ] Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	[ ] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E (Poor)		[ ] Existed	[ ] Major revision
		[ ] No records	

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6574 Title: Serum hepatitis B surface antigen level predicts treatment response to oral nucleos(t)ide analogues in chronic hepatitis B patients CHien-Hung Chen, et al., Correspondence Author: Dr. Chen CC In the present review, authors showed that quantification of serum HBsAg could be one of the reliable predictors for clinical outcome in patients with CHB, treated with NA. This is informative report for readers of WJG. Evaluation of clinical course of CHB, it is necessary to consider the natural course. So, authors had better mention the natural course of HBsAg clearance. If not, it is not ambiguous which NA treatment induced HBsAg clearance or not. In minor; There were abbreviations without explanation; for example, TDF.

**ESPS Peer-review Report**
**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6574

**Title:** Serum hepatitis B surface antigen level predicts treatment response to oral nucleos(t)ide analogues in chronic hepatitis B patients

**Reviewer code:** 00071472

**Science editor:** Ma, Ya-Juan

**Date sent for review:** 2013-10-25 18:11

**Date reviewed:** 2013-11-15 08:49

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<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"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The authors reviewed the correlation of HBsAg level and nucleos(t)ide treatment response. This is a good summary that can be useful for scientist and clinicians in the field. The manuscript is well organized and well written. However, the following minor changes has to be made; since the authors discuss based on topics which are 1) Comparison of HBsAg kinetic between interferon and NAs, 2) HBsAg predict virological response (VR) or HBeAg loss/seroconversion during NAs therapy, 3) HBsAg predict HBsAg loss during NAs therapy, 4) HBsAg predict HBsAg loss and HBV relapse after stopping NAs therapy, and 5) Other issues, I suggest the authors to provide summary by Table for each topic. The manuscript did not follow WJG format. Please modify the manuscript format based on the WJG format.

**ESPS Peer-review Report**

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6574

**Title:** Serum hepatitis B surface antigen level predicts treatment response to oral nucleos(t)ide analogues in chronic hepatitis B patients

**Reviewer code:** 00030389

**Science editor:** Ma, Ya-Juan

**Date sent for review:** 2013-11-8 18:11

**Date reviewed:** 2013-11-15 08:49

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<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"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Major revision.

Comment: The authors reviewed the articles on utility of HBsAg for several clinical issues.

Their review is interesting and discusses concisely the important questions. However there are a few problems.

Major comments:

#1. The authors should define virological response (VR).

#2. The reference should be cited on 2008 Asian Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver (APASL) guidelines. They should describe their details concisely.

#3. The reference should be cited on the stopping criteria of the APASL 2012. They should describe their details concisely.

Minor comment:

#1. Page 15, line 16. HBsAg < 4000 IU/mL is correct? It may be



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HBsAg>4000IU/mL.