

Dear Prof. Ma,

thank you very much again for inviting us to submit this review article for your topic highlight "cirrhosis" (ID 02540514). We appreciated the positive remarks of the reviewer and revised the manuscript according to these remarks and those of the editor.

Point of criticism:

A more concise version may be preferable due to the length of this manuscript.

Response of the authors: Figure 3 was omitted and the text was shortened especially in the part regarding the breath tests.

All references were revised, the text was shortened especially in the part regarding breath tests and figure 3 was omitted. The language and grammar has been checked by AJE (certificate included). All changes in the manuscript are highlighted (except format revisions in the references).

I apologize for the delay in submission of the revised version , but one of the authors was ill, so the final manuscript control was delayed.

We hope that the manuscript is now acceptable for publication.

Again, thank you for your kind invitation.

Sincerely,

C.G. Dietrich, MD, PhD