

Dear editor,

You have kindly accepted our article NO 26018 entitled “contribution of alpha-fetoprotein in liver transplantation for hepatocellular carcinoma”, for free publication in the World Journal of Hepatology. We have carefully read the reviewers’ comments and have tried our best to fulfill their requirements.

First, a professional english-speaking editor has corrected the manuscript, in order to ensure its grammatical quality. We have highlighted the main changes in grammar and spelling (yellow).

Second, reviewer 00068250 has mentioned three main issues that we address in the revised manuscript:

- Hepatocellular carcinoma does appear as the second most common cause of death by cancer worldwide, and not the third one, according to the latest sources (Globocan 2012). Therefore we did not change this statement in our introduction.
- We have taken in account the fact that alpha-fetoprotein is not the only predictor of HCC recurrence. We have added the impact of other risk factors for HCC recurrence in the part mentioning alpha-fetoprotein as a prognostic tool (green highlighting).
- We already discuss the dynamic changes of alpha-fetoprotein during the waiting period, including its evolution after loco-regional therapy. We invite you to read the part entitled “evolution of alpha-fetoprotein over time” for further details (blue highlighting).

As for reviewer 00227509, we are sorry if we were not able to provide novel information about the use of alpha-fetoprotein in liver transplantation. As our work is a review article, the absence of such novel information is understandable. However, we attempted to give an overview of the main data available on the subject, and we paid a specific attention to the didactic quality of our article.

We hope that the revision of our manuscript will bring you complete satisfaction. We thank you for the consideration you are giving to our work, and we look forward to your reply.

Sincerely yours,

Pr. Fabrice MUSCARI