

**Reviewer #1:**

**Scientific Quality: Grade A (Excellent)**

**Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)**

**Conclusion: Accept (General priority)**

**Specific Comments to Authors:** Dear colleagues! I read with pleasure and interest your manuscript entitled "Efficacy and safety of semaglutide in non-alcoholic fatty liver disease: A systematic review and meta-analysis". In this properly registered and adequately performed study based on the analysis of the data obtained in 3 available clinical trials you showed that semaglutide has beneficial histological, radiologic, liver enzyme, and cardiometabolic effects in patients with NAFLD, with a well-tolerated safety profile. These results evidently fill knowledge gap and may be interesting to the readers. I did not detect any major flaws and suppose that the paper may be published as is.

**Response to Reviewer 1:**

*Thank you for your kind remarks. We greatly appreciate your time in reviewing our manuscript.*

**Reviewer #2:**

**Scientific Quality: Grade A (Excellent)**

**Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)**

**Conclusion: Accept (High priority)**

**Specific Comments to Authors:** Comment: Should the 'wrong outcome (n=1)' in the Figure 1 be 'wrong outcome (n=1)'?

**Response to Reviewer 2:**

*Thank you for your comment. Yes, the phrase "wrong outcome (n=1)" is accurate and intentional. The paper being referenced is by Harrison et al. 2020 (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cct.2020.106174>). This paper describes the trial design of the randomized controlled trial conducted by Newsome et al. (DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2028395) and discusses the relationship between non-invasive biomarker scores and the accuracy of classifying fibrosis stage. This particular outcome was not measured in our systematic review and meta-analysis, and therefore, it was not included.*

**Reviewer #3:**

**Scientific Quality: Grade A (Excellent)**

**Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)**

**Conclusion: Accept (General priority)**

**Specific Comments to Authors:** Dr. Zhu and his colleague systemically reviewed the effect of Semaglutide on non-alcoholic fatty liver disease in this meta analysis. Unlike pervious report, their work only focused on the biopsy or imaging scan -confirmed NAFLD RCT studies, with histological outcomes reported. General speaking, it is a well-designed and well-written meta-analysis. However, some minor revisions are needed: Table 1: Newsome (2020) should be Newsome (2021) for Loomba(2023) study Male/ female: 22(31)/49/(71. should be 22(31)/49(69) Age (SD): 59 (9.0) should be 59.5(8.0) For result section, please as mention related Figures in the text. For example: Semaglutide was associated with a significantly higher likelihood of NASH resolution with no worsening of liver fibrosis (OR 3.18, 95% CI 1.70 to 5.95, I<sup>2</sup> = 0% Fig2A)., which will make the manuscript more readable.

Response to Reviewer 3:

*Thank you for your comment. We have implemented the suggested changes accordingly. Additionally, we have revised the entire manuscript to accurately reflect the publication year of the RCT by Newsome et al. Furthermore, we have incorporated references to the figures within the text to enhance the manuscript's readability.*

Science editor:

The manuscript has been peer-reviewed, and it's ready for the first decision.

Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)

Scientific Quality: Grade A (Excellent)

Response to science editor

*Thank you for your review.*

Company editor-in-chief:

I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, the full text of the manuscript, the relevant ethics documents, and the English Language Certificate, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Gastroenterology, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors. Before final acceptance, uniform presentation should be used for figures showing the same or similar contents; for example, "Figure 1 Pathological changes of atrophic gastritis after treatment. A: ...; B: ...; C: ...; D: ...; E: ...; F: ...; G: ...". Please provide decomposable Figures (in which all components are movable and editable), organize them into a single PowerPoint file. Please authors are required to provide standard three-line tables, that is, only the top line, bottom line, and column line are displayed, while other table lines are hidden. The contents of each cell in the table should conform to the editing specifications, and the lines of each row or column of the table should be aligned. Do not use carriage returns or spaces to replace lines or vertical lines and do not segment cell content. Please check and confirm whether the figures are original (i.e. generated de novo by the author(s) for this paper). If the picture is 'original', the author needs to add the following copyright information to the bottom right-

hand side of the picture in PowerPoint (PPT): Copyright ©The Author(s) 2023. If an author of a submission is re-using a figure or figures published elsewhere, or that is copyrighted, the author must provide documentation that the previous publisher or copyright holder has given permission for the figure to be re-published; and correctly indicating the reference source and copyrights. For example, "Figure 1 Histopathological examination by hematoxylin-eosin staining (200 ×). A: Control group; B: Model group; C: Pioglitazone hydrochloride group; D: Chinese herbal medicine group. Citation: Yang JM, Sun Y, Wang M, Zhang XL, Zhang SJ, Gao YS, Chen L, Wu MY, Zhou L, Zhou YM, Wang Y, Zheng FJ, Li YH. Regulatory effect of a Chinese herbal medicine formula on non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. *World J Gastroenterol* 2019; 25(34): 5105-5119. Copyright ©The Author(s) 2019. Published by Baishideng Publishing Group Inc[6]". And please cite the reference source in the references list. If the author fails to properly cite the published or copyrighted picture(s) or table(s) as described above, he/she will be subject to withdrawal of the article from BPG publications and may even be held liable. Before final acceptance, when revising the manuscript, the author must supplement and improve the highlights of the latest cutting-edge research results, thereby further improving the content of the manuscript. To this end, authors are advised to apply a new tool, the Reference Citation Analysis (RCA). RCA is an artificial intelligence technology-based open multidisciplinary citation analysis database. In it, upon obtaining search results from the keywords entered by the author, "Impact Index Per Article" under "Ranked by" should be selected to find the latest highlight articles, which can then be used to further improve an article under preparation/peer-review/revision. Please visit our RCA database for more information at: <https://www.referencecitationanalysis.com/>.

Response to Company editor-in-chief:

*Thank you for your comment. We can confirm that the figures in our manuscript have a consistent and uniform presentation, and they are all original. We have also prepared a PowerPoint file containing these figures and copyright information as per your request. Additionally, we have formatted the tables in accordance with the standard three-line table design. All references have been accurately cited throughout the manuscript and verified using the reference auto-analyser.*