

## ESPS Peer-review Report

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 3360

**Title:** Prevalence of Hepatitis C Infection Among Intravenous Drug Users in Shanghai

**Reviewer code:** 00070913

**Science editor:** Wen, Ling-Ling

**Date sent for review:** 2013-04-25 20:56

**Date reviewed:** 2013-06-06 17:37

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 checked="" 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

This paper give important epidemiology information of the HCV infection in a index city of China. I suggest you should mention the total population in Shanghai as reference. Is there any similar drug rehabilitation program in shanghai? What is your serving proportion to the city? The Language is well written.

**ESPS Peer-review Report**

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 3360

**Title:** Prevalence of Hepatitis C Infection Among Intravenous Drug Users in Shanghai

**Reviewer code:** 00506601

**Science editor:** Wen, Ling-Ling

**Date sent for review:** 2013-04-25 20:56

**Date reviewed:** 2013-06-07 03:25

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 checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	language polishing	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This paper presents results hepatitis C testing from one clinic that treats IDUs in Shanghai, China. Specific Comments.: I won't comment on the abstract since my comments on the paper will cover the abstract. The Introduction is concise and comprehensive review of the state of the art of hepatitis C infection. In summation the authors mention that because the prevalence of infection in IDU is unknown they decided to study a Medical Center in Shanghai China. This is where I have questions: 1. How was that Medical Center selected? 2. How representative is the Medical Center to all other IDU clinics in Medical Centers in Shanghai? 3. How generalizable is the data to Shanghai and to all of China? 4. How were the 421 individuals selected? Was it a probably sample of participants in the clinic or was it a convenience sample where these were the only people who would consent so there is some bias in the sample? Bias has not been mentioned but how do the authors plan on addressing the potential for selection bias? The laboratory screening is reasonable but I question why add HIV and T.pallidum to the testing and to the paper. It is not really discussed and only adds a distraction to the paper without adding any content. I think these two serological makers should be removed. In the discussion the authors mention the low rate of RNA infection in the population and compare their infection rate to experimental HCV infection studies in chimpanzees. I think the authors should be more cautious since this is one study in one Medical Center in one City with more than likely a convenience sample. A much larger population based sample needs to be undertaken in China before generalizable statements can be made.

## ESPS Peer-review Report

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 3360

**Title:** Prevalence of Hepatitis C Infection Among Intravenous Drug Users in Shanghai

**Reviewer code:** 02441147

**Science editor:** Wen, Ling-Ling

**Date sent for review:** 2013-04-25 20:56

**Date reviewed:** 2013-06-07 23:36

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 checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	language polishing	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

WJG 3360 Comments to authors Only minor corrections are necessary: 1.- In the section Abstract is recommended to include the numbers of male and female patients included in the study to understand the percentages of RIBA confirmation. 2.- In the Section Introduction, second paragraph say "HCV is highly heterogeneous; 11 HCV genotypes with several distinct subtypes have been identified globally [2]." This is not correct, because actually the number of genotypes accepted is 7. See <http://hcv.lanl.gov/content/sequence/HCV/classification/genotable.html> and references: Simmonds P, Bukh J, Combet C, Del'age G, Enomoto N, Feinstone S. Consensus Proposals for a Unified System of Nomenclature of Hepatitis C Virus Genotypes. Hepatol 2005;42:962-73. Murphy D, Chamberland J, Dandavino R, Sablon E. A new genotype of hepatitis C virus originating from central Africa. HEPATOLOGY 2007;46:623A 3.- In the Section Results, say "HCV infection rates among HCV seronegative subjects". In the study, the RNA of HCV was analyzed in SEROPOSITIVE patients. 4.- In the section discussion, in last paragraph, line 1 say "The gold standard for diagnosis of HCV infection requires biopsy of the liver" This is not correct, because the confirmatory diagnostic of hepatitis C is nucleic acid testing. Liver biopsy is only necessary for the assessment of chronic hepatitis and treatment decisions.

**ESPS Peer-review Report**

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 3360

**Title:** Prevalence of Hepatitis C Infection Among Intravenous Drug Users in Shanghai

**Reviewer code:** 02446805

**Science editor:** Wen, Ling-Ling

**Date sent for review:** 2013-04-25 20:56

**Date reviewed:** 2013-06-12 11:57

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input 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
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**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Ms: ESPS Manuscript No.3360 Comments on “Prevalence of Hepatitis C Infection Among Intravenous Drug Users in Shanghai” are as below: The authors described the prevalence of HCV infection among intravenous drug users in Shanghai. It is very interesting that spontaneous disappearance of HCV was found in this group. This manuscript includes only a few information. Much more clinical parameters, such as serum transaminase levels, histological grade of liver fibrosis and inflammation, should be shown and analyzed in Tables. Genotype also should be shown in a table. Why did the author use RIBA instead of PCR method? PCR is more familiar and should be enough for confirmation of HCV infection. Also viral load should be calculated in the same time by quantitative PCR method. Taken together, this report is no worthy of being published in “World Journal of Gastroenterology”. Rejection without any opportunity of resubmission is recommended. Confidential comments: This study is very interesting but no worthy to be published in “World Journal of Gastroenterology”. Rejection without any opportunity of resubmission is recommended. (Additional evaluation) Classification of the manuscript: Grade E Language evaluation: Grade A

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