

## Response letter

**Reviewer 03647931-**

Authors

Dear Editor, This manuscript titled: FibroMeter combined to first generation tests: a lower cost approach to evaluate significant fibrosis in chronic hepatitis C, is well written, however, it requires minor language polishing. The study was conducted on a relatively large number of patients (760 patients with CHC), 222 derivation population from Brazil and 538 validation population in France, these large numbers lead to more robust conclusions. There is only one minor drawback in the study design, the derivation and validation populations come from different racial/ethnic backgrounds, however, the authors can refer to this point in the discussion sections

Response to reviewer:

This is an important issue. The manuscript has now been modified to include the following paragraph in the discussion section:

“Although derivation and validation populations came from different racial ethnic backgrounds, most patients included in derivation population were Caucasians. Besides, both populations shared similar characteristics regarding laboratorial results and distribution of significant fibrosis”.

**Reviewer 00181421** –No points raised by the reviewer

**Reviewer 01800318-** No points raised by the reviewer

Regarding grammatical clarity and appropriate vocabulary, this manuscript has been reviewed by the first author who was born in Canada and is a native English speaker, despite living and working in Brazil, and by a translator whose native language is English.