

Dec. 29,2019

Manuscript NO.: 52466

Dear Editor,

The revised manuscript entitled “Serum N-glycan markers for diagnosing liver fibrosis induced by hepatitis B virus” has been resubmitted. We appreciate the valuable comments and suggestions from editors and reviewers, and have the point-by-point responses as follows. The corresponding revisions are highlighted in red in the revised manuscript.

Reviewer 1:

1. please add a figure with coloured overlays of the peaks in Fig 1. This would make the differences in the peaks clearer. - add significances to tables 1 and 2 (this might then spare table 3) or provide a matrix like presentation of the significances.

Response: The figure with coloured overlays of the peaks has been added to Figure 1. We merged the initial Table 2 and Table 3 to the revised Table 3 and marked significances. At the same time, significances have been added in Table 1.

Reviewer 2:

1. Since the diagnostic model was based on logistic regression, please attach logistic regression results for each model including all variables that were part of the model (supplement).

Response: We have added logistic regression results for combined models (Model A+ALT+PLT, Model B+ALT+PLT and Model C+ALT+PLT) to the section “Comparing N-glycome models with serological marker panels” in Results.

2. Is the activity of inflammatory liver was known. Please include this information in the patient characteristic.

Response: We have summarized the inflammation grade and fibrosis stage of 432 HBV-Infected patients into the revised Table 2.

3. Figure 2. Please mark individual graphs (A, B, C).

Response: We have marked individual graphs (A, B, C) in Figure 2.

4. Supplementary table 2. Please verify fibrosis stages for Model B + ALT + PLT (F2 vs F3-F4?) and add the footnotes to the table.

Response: We have verified fibrosis stages for Model A+ALT+PLT, Model B+ALT+PLT and Model C+ALT+PLT in Supplementary table 2 (the revised Supplementary table 4) and

corrections have been made for Model B+ALT+PLT and Model C+ALT+PLT. Also, we have added the footnotes to the Table.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the editors and reviewers for the constructive comments. The manuscript has been revised accordingly. We hope that with these modifications to the manuscript you will find acceptable for publication in *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

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