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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology
ESPS manuscript NO: 14930
Title: Interleukin-21 gene polymorphisms and chronic hepatitis B virus infection in a Chinese population
Reviewer's code: 00186128
Reviewer's country: Tunisia
Science editor: Ya-Juan Ma
Date sent for review: 2014-10-31 13:45
Date reviewed: 2014-11-10 14:57

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A: Excellent	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing	PubMed Search:	[ ] Accept
[Y] Grade B: Very good	[Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing	[ ] The same title	[ ] High priority for publication
[ ] Grade C: Good	[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	[ ] Duplicate publication	[ ] Rejection
[ ] Grade D: Fair	[ ] Grade D: Rejected	[ ] Plagiarism	[Y] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	[ ] Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		[ ] The same title	
		[ ] Duplicate publication	
		[ ] Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript "Association between single nucleotide polymorphism of interleukin-21 gene and chronic hepatitis B virus infection in a Chinese population" is interesting and innovating. The current data point to IL-21 as an immunomodulatory cytokine in HBV infection. Immunotherapeutic strategies aimed at optimizing the beneficial effects of IL-21 in HBV infection may prove to be a rigorous challenge in the future. Comments: Title: It's long and this study doesn't report an association between IL21 polymorphisms and CHB; the title proposed: interleukin-21 gene polymorphisms and chronic hepatitis B virus infection in a Chinese population Introduction: ? Some recent studies investigated the serum level of IL21 in CHB which must be cited exp: - J Interferon Cytokine Res. 2014: Interleukin-21 Responses in Patients with Chronic Hepatitis B - J Viral Hepat. 2014: Increased levels of IL-21 responses are associated with the severity of liver injury in patients with chronic activehepatitis B. ? the association between IL21 gene and CHB have been evaluated: - Viral immunom 2013: Association of IL-17, IL-21, and IL-23R gene polymorphisms with HBV infection in kidney transplant patients - Hum Immunol. 2013: IL21 and IL21R polymorphisms

and their interactive effects on serum IL-21 and IgE levels in patients with chronic hepatitis B virus infection. This study explored IL21rs907715 and rs2221903 and IL21R T-83C and rs3093301 polymorphisms in 395 patients with chronic HBV infection, 75 HBV infection resolvers and 174 healthy controls. These results must be cited and discussed. Results: In the paragraph: Association of IL-21 Gene Polymorphisms and HBV infection subgroups: we must mentioned that distributions of genotype frequencies were significantly different between HBV carrier group and controls (P=0.031) with SNP rs13143866.

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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology
ESPS manuscript NO: 14930
Title: Interleukin-21 gene polymorphisms and chronic hepatitis B virus infection in a Chinese population
Reviewer's code: 00068832
Reviewer's country: China
Science editor: Ya-Juan Ma
Date sent for review: 2014-10-31 13:45
Date reviewed: 2014-11-14 10:54

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A: Excellent	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing	PubMed Search:	[ ] Accept
[Y] Grade B: Very good	[Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing	[ ] The same title	[ ] High priority for publication
[ ] Grade C: Good	[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	[ ] Duplicate publication	[ ] Rejection
[ ] Grade D: Fair	[ ] Grade D: Rejected	[ ] Plagiarism	[Y] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	[ ] Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		[ ] The same title	
		[ ] Duplicate publication	
		[ ] Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this study, authors investigated the relationship between three single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in IL-21 gene and chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection in the Chinese population. Their found that rs13143866 A allele increase the risk of HBV carrying and ATA haplotype (rs13143866, rs2221903 and rs907715) increase the risk of HBV-related hepatocellular carcinoma. This paper is acceptable for publish. But authors ought to increase the analytical results for the non-HCC subgroups, although there were no significant differences in the frequencies of all alleles and genotypes among some subgroups.