

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



January 14, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 6202-review.doc).

Title: Autophagy in HCV-host interactions: potential roles and therapeutic target for liver-associated diseases

Author: Po-Yuan Ke, Steve S.-L. Chen

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 6202

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

- (1) We have reconstructed our manuscript according to the reviewer #1 comments on the possible interplay between HCV replication and autophagy. We have incorporated related studies showing how host cellular proteins regulate HCV replication through interacting with viral proteins (page. 7, line 11 to page. 8, line 6). Also, the functional roles of host factors in HCV-altered lipid metabolism, including LD accumulation and membranous web formation, are also discussed (page. 8, line 7 to page. 9, line 11). In addition, the potential roles of viral proteins on the process of HCV-associated liver diseases are discussed (page. 10, line 3 to page. 11, line 14). The possible link between autophagy and HCV replication is also outlined in page. 20, line 17 to page. 21, line 8.
- (2) According to reviewer #1 comments, figures 2, 3, and 4 have been revised. In figure 2, host cellular proteins that interact with viral RNA and proteins and regulate HCV replication are shown. In addition, the potential roles of viral proteins on LD accumulation and membranous web formation are indicated. We also outlined the known effects of viral proteins on different stages of HCV-associated liver diseases in figure 3. Moreover, how HCV activates autophagy and the potential role of autophagy in HCV replication, such as membranous web formation, have been incorporated into figure 4. Furthermore, the possible implications of HCV-activated autophagy in the development of HCV-related liver diseases are indicated in figure 4.
- (3) We have incorporated studies on how HCV induces steatosis. Also, the differential impact of different HCV genotypes on steatosis is also discussed (page. 10, line 2 to line 18).
- (4) The reference suggested by reviewer and its related finding on the therapeutic implication of autophagy modulation in curing liver disease have been incorporated (page. 23, line 5 to line 10; Reference 236).

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Steve Chen".

Steve S.-L. Chen, Ph.D.

Research Fellow

Institute of Biomedical Sciences

Academia Sinica

128, Section 2, Yen-Chiu-Yuan Road

Taipei 11529, Taiwan

Tel: 886-2-2652-3933

Fax: 886-2-2652-3073

E-mail: schen@ibms.sinica.edu.tw