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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Virology
ESPS manuscript NO: 18645
Title: Is the use of IL28B genotype justified in the era of interferon-free treatments for hepatitis C?

Reviewer's code: 00504271
Reviewer's country: Japan
Science editor: Xue-Mei Gong
Date sent for review: 2015-04-28 17:15
Date reviewed: 2015-05-07 18:39

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
[Y] Grade A: Excellent	[Y] Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	[Y] Accept
[ ] Grade B: Very good	[ ] 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	[ ] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	[ ] Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		[ ] The same title	
		[ ] Duplicate publication	
		[ ] Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript by Kanda et al. describes the interleukin-28B (IL28B) genotype distribution in Japanese HCV patients and no relationship between this locus and the new interferon-free HCV therapy. As described in the manuscript, IL28B genotyping is used for prediction of interferon sensitivity of HCV patients. In the regimen of HCV treatment, interferon is being replaced with that without interferon because of less population of interferon-sensitive patients and because of its strong side effects. It is nice timing to be published.

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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Virology
ESPS manuscript NO: 18645
Title: Is the use of IL28B genotype justified in the era of interferon-free treatments for hepatitis C?

Reviewer's code: 02521807
Reviewer's country: Argentina
Science editor: Xue-Mei Gong
Date sent for review: 2015-04-28 17:15
Date reviewed: 2015-04-29 03:54

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A: Excellent	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	[ ] Accept
[ ] 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
[Y] Grade D: Fair	[ ] Grade D: Rejected	[ ] Plagiarism	[ ] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	[Y] Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		[ ] The same title	
		[ ] Duplicate publication	
		[ ] Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript subject is interesting but needs to be extended to general readers who potentially do not have background in general terms that authors could offer as well known. In example it will be useful to explain certain terms such as SVR, general concepts on different IL28 genotypes. In order to illustrate, the authors wrote: Page 4: "The IL28B minor genotype plays a crucial role in interferon resistance. The host genetic polymorphism may be useful for predicting drug response. An association between inosine triphosphatase (ITPA) genetic variants and treatment-induced anemia has been reported in HCV-infected patients treated with peginterferon plus ribavirin. A genetic polymorphism of interferon-lambda-4 has also been associated with the treatment response to interferon-including regimens for chronic hepatitis C infection." These several central concepts are consigned without any connection between them, difficulting their comprehension by readers. A similar scenario is observed for the topic titled "Mechanism of the association between the IL28B genotype and treatment response". When described the CURRENT DISTRIBUTION OF IL28B GENOTYPES IN JAPANESE PATIENTS INFECTED WITH HCV, the authors should add other

representations or figures (besides figure 1a-1c) accompanied by statistical analysis of results that they found. The authors mentioned genotype 2 (page 8, at the top) but previously they generically express "genotype non-1". It is mandatory to take an unique criteria in order to be clear. As commented above, in the conclusions the authors mentioned several DAA not previously explained. Consdiering the different targets in the viral replication cycle, it should be explained previously more clearly.

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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Virology
ESPS manuscript NO: 18645
Title: Is the use of IL28B genotype justified in the era of interferon-free treatments for hepatitis C?

Reviewer's code: 00009937
Reviewer's country: Argentina
Science editor: Xue-Mei Gong
Date sent for review: 2015-04-28 17:15
Date reviewed: 2015-05-05 03:21

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
[Y] Grade A: Excellent	[Y] Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	[ ] Accept
[ ] Grade B: Very good	[ ] 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

To the authors The title may better reflect what is stated in the review if there is a reference of the use of IL28 for eg "is the use of IL28 genotype justified in the era of free interferon treatments for hepatitis C"? In the abstract, last sentence, you would use availability instead of invention. In conclusion the same sugerence- In Core Tips: IL28 is associated to the response to IFN, not to IFN plus ribavirin. In the third row of NTERLEUKIN -28B (IL28B) GENOTYPES the same observation about plus ribavirin. Please you have to correct erradication instead of eradication- The paper is excelent, is ok to publish, minor revisions before publication-