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ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

ESPS manuscript NO: 14086

Title: Host cellular MicroRNA involvement in the control of HBV gene expression and replication

Reviewer code: 00503561

Science editor: Yue-Li Tian

Date sent for review: 2014-09-20 13:37

Date reviewed: 2014-10-08 10:30

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | RECOMMENDATION | CONCLUSION |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing | Google Search: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected | BPG Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor | | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

If you can add a few sentences on the possible contribution of miRNAs to other (if ever) pathway to hepatic cancer(some of them are discriminate from HBV related and the other would be shared), there readers would have more comprehensive image on this complex situation of liver.



ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

ESPS manuscript NO: 14086

Title: Host cellular MicroRNA involvement in the control of HBV gene expression and replication

Reviewer code: 02444883

Science editor: Yue-Li Tian

Date sent for review: 2014-09-20 13:37

Date reviewed: 2014-10-09 16:19

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | RECOMMENDATION | CONCLUSION |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing | Google Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected | BPG Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor | | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript from Mizuguchi et al reports the role of MicroRNAs in the HBV activity, gene expression and replication. The authors reported a list of microRNAs, describing the potential effect and interaction with HBV infection, with particular attention on the role of each molecule in the specific pathway. The manuscript focuses the attention on a very interesting and important issue and the discussion paragraph is well written, providing a background of the current situation and potential future direction. However I would suggest some revisions: - the introduction paragraph should be modified and should be more focused on the HBV topic. Mainly, the last sentence should be completely modified: the authors wrote " we review recent advances in the understanding of the mechanism underpinning miRNA regulation, during hepatitis B viral infection as an example..." HBV viral infection is not "an example" is the main topic of the review! - in the paragraph entitled "HBV infection" at page 5 the authors provide a list of "biology and lifecycle of the HBV", in five points. The paragraph is confusing and not completely understandable. This part should be re-written.



ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

ESPS manuscript NO: 14086

Title: Host cellular MicroRNA involvement in the control of HBV gene expression and replication

Reviewer code: 01407353

Science editor: Yue-Li Tian

Date sent for review: 2014-09-20 13:37

Date reviewed: 2014-10-14 00:39

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | RECOMMENDATION | CONCLUSION |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing | Google Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected | BPG Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor | | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Here Mizuguchi Y et al. revise the available literature concerning the role of miRNAs in HBV-related liver disease. I have the following minor points: 1) The Introduction and the second paragraph (MicroRNA biogenesis and function) should be merged in a single section with a brief introduction (the first paragraph of the current Introduction), and then the discussion concerning microRNA biogenesis and function (the whole current second paragraph). This new paragraph (which could keep the same title of the current second paragraph), should end with presentation of the topic which will be covered by the review, i.e., that of microRNA involvement in the control of HBV gene expression and replication. Indeed, exactly this one, and not a more generic overview on the role of miRNAs in liver diseases, is the topic of this work. 2) Consistently, the last paragraph should be more centered on the topic addressed, without extending to the issue of hepatocellular carcinoma, which is another issue.