

Utrecht, September 2th, 2013

Dear Professor Ma,

We were happy to receive the positive comments of Editor and reviewers on our invited review entitled: "Surveillance for hepatocellular carcinoma in chronic liver disease: evidence and controversies" by van Meer *et al*, which we would like to resubmit for publication in "World Journal of Gastroenterology".

We thank both reviewers and the Editor for the suggestions to further improve our work. As suggested by reviewer 00011088, we have adapted the title, to indicate the global inconsistencies of many issues related to surveillance for hepatocellular carcinoma. We finally decided to keep the critical issues of the various international guidelines in the last para and in Table 2, rather than to dilute the comparison over various paras throughout the manuscript. As indicated by reviewer 02440197, some recent publications on surveillance have been added to the revised version (new ref. 51, 52, 54). Nevertheless, it was clearly impossible to cite all recent publications, and there was a need to be selective, considering the large amount of papers in recent years on HCC surveillance, reflecting the great interest in this topic.

We hope that this work will now be accepted for publication in "World Journal of Gastroenterology".

Thank you for your kind consideration,

Sincerely yours,

S. van Meer MD.

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