

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**Manuscript NO:** 66613

**Title:** Elastography as predictor of liver cirrhosis complications after hepatitis C virus eradication in the era of direct-acting antivirals

**Reviewer's code:** 03024263

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** DSc, MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Russia

**Author's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-03-31

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-03-31 19:46

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-04-04 17:06

**Review time:** 3 Days and 21 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



**Baishideng  
Publishing  
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite  
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA  
**Telephone:** +1-925-399-1568  
**E-mail:** [bpgoffice@wjgnet.com](mailto:bpgoffice@wjgnet.com)  
<https://www.wjgnet.com>

#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Numerous studies have shown that direct-acting antiviral drugs (DAAs)-induced sustained virological response (SVR) is independently associated with lower risk of liver cirrhosis complications. HCV eradication in patients with cirrhosis may stop fibrosis progression or even cause fibrosis regression, leading to improved portal hypertension and reduced risk of hepatocellular carcinoma. Transient elastography (VCTE) is a well-known modern method for assessing liver fibrosis by determining liver stiffness. In this respect, I found nothing new in this review. I strongly recommend that the authors consider associated with VCTE algorithm for monitoring patients who have achieved SVR after HCV treatment (PMID: 29391861), as well as the role of a SVR in primary prevention of bleeding from esophageal varices in subclinical portal hypertension (DOI: 10.1111/jebm.12407).

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**Manuscript NO:** 66613

**Title:** Elastography as predictor of liver cirrhosis complications after hepatitis C virus eradication in the era of direct-acting antivirals

**Reviewer's code:** 02942902

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Japan

**Author's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-03-31

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-04-02 16:08

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-04-08 13:01

**Review time:** 5 Days and 20 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The authors described the role of the liver stiffness (LS) measurement the liver fibrosis and the cirrhosis-related events in HCV-eradicated patients. In addition, they mentioned some biomarkers mainly focusing on the FIB-4 and APRI indices. Comments: 1) Regarding the ultrasound-based noninvasive assessment of the gastroesophageal varices, spleen stiffness (SS) measurement has been proposed as useful methods (Ultrasound Med Biol. 2021 Jan;47(1):76-83.; J Hepatol. 2021 Mar;74(3):584-592.. World J Gastroenterol. 2019 Jan 21;25(3):308-329. Gastroenterology. 2012 Oct;143(4):e23, etc). I would like to recommend the authors to add some description regarding the role of the SS measurement. 2) In relation to the gastroesophageal varices, the role of FIB-4 and APRI indices are limited and some noninvasive methods have been proposed (Liver Int. 2017 Aug;37(8):1177-1183.; Gastrointest Endosc. 2018 Aug;88(2):230-239.e2.; Am J Gastroenterol. 2019 Aug;114(8):1275-1282.). Kindly mention the role of other biomarkers. I consider that the RESIST-HCV (Am J Gastroenterol. 2019 Aug;114(8):1275-1282) is particularly important for patients with an SVR. 3) They mentioned some factors that are associated with the HCC development after an SVR including age, advanced fibrosis/cirrhosis, platelets count, steatosis, diabetes, alfafetoprotein, gamma-glutamyltransferase levels, ethnic and environmental factors. However, some genetic factors have been also proposed to be involved in the HCC development, though the roles seems to be sometimes controversial and unconfirmed (J Gastrointestin Liver Dis. 2019 Dec 9;28(4):449-456.; Gastroenterology. 2017 May;152(6):1383-1394.. J Viral Hepat. 2019 Oct;26(10):1233-1236.). Kindly add the description regarding the gene polymorphisms that are potentially associated with the HCC development after the HCV-eradication.

## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**Manuscript NO:** 66613

**Title:** Elastography as predictor of liver cirrhosis complications after hepatitis C virus eradication in the era of direct-acting antivirals

**Reviewer's code:** 02942902

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Japan

**Author's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-03-31

**Reviewer chosen by:** Shan-Shan Gong

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-08-09 10:13

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-08-09 11:30

**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



**Baishideng  
Publishing  
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite  
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA  
**Telephone:** +1-925-399-1568  
**E-mail:** [bpgoffice@wjgnet.com](mailto:bpgoffice@wjgnet.com)  
<https://www.wjgnet.com>

The authors responded to the comments and revised their paper accordingly.

## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**Manuscript NO:** 66613

**Title:** Elastography as predictor of liver cirrhosis complications after hepatitis C virus eradication in the era of direct-acting antivirals

**Reviewer's code:** 03024263

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** DSc, MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Russia

**Author's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-03-31

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jia-Ru Fan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-08-09 15:09

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-08-10 09:43

**Review time:** 18 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



**Baishideng  
Publishing  
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite  
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA  
**Telephone:** +1-925-399-1568  
**E-mail:** [bpgoffice@wjgnet.com](mailto:bpgoffice@wjgnet.com)  
**https://**[www.wjgnet.com](http://www.wjgnet.com)

The authors have added the necessary information. I have no significant remarks.