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## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 18312

**Title:** PROGRESSION TO CIRRHOSIS AND DEVELOPMENT OF HEPATOCELLULAR CARCINOMA IN CHRONIC HEPATITIS C: ROLE OF OCCULT HBV INFECTION

**Reviewer's code:** 02860897

**Reviewer's country:** Japan

**Science editor:** Jing Yu

**Date sent for review:** 2015-04-18 13:53

**Date reviewed:** 2015-05-03 11:24

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	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"/> The same title	<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"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Occult HBV infection is an intriguing clinical issue. We also reported that HBV DNA was detected in serum and liver using two different sets of primers and probes for real time PCR. As you know HCV is the leading cause of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC), however, the incidence of HCC shows geographical difference. Genotype of HCV, host age and alcohol consumption may have the effect on the incidence of the liver. Occult HBV infection is another important factor that may affect the carcinogenesis of the liver. Now we can eradicate HCV in the majority part of patients. After eradication of HCV, Occult HBV infection will become new clinical problem. Remained HBV may be causal agent of HCC and reactivate after chemotherapy. This review is interesting and further intensive study is needed to obtain definite answer. This review is well written and excellent. I have no further comment.