

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 61196

Title: Effect of ursodeoxycholic acid treatment on hepatic steatosis and atherosclerosis:
final results of the international clinical trial USPEH

Reviewer's code: 02811953

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United States

Author's Country/Territory: Russia

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Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-12-03 16:41

Reviewer performed review: 2020-12-06 20:14

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Scientific quality	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<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
Conclusion	<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
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	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 manuscript (61196) entitled "Effect of ursodeoxycholic acid treatment on hepatic steatosis and atherosclerosis: final results of the international clinical trial USPEH " is a manuscript by Maria Yu, et al. The author aimed to investigate the effect of ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA) on hepatic steatosis and fibrosis, atherogenesis, and atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) risk in NAFLD patients. This clinical trial recruited 174 patients with ultrasound-diagnosed NAFLD. They received 15 mg/kg/d UDCA for 6 months on top of lifestyle modification with diet and exercise. They concluded that UDCA improves liver enzymes, lipid profiles, and hepatic steatosis in NAFLD patients with and without >5% weight loss. UDCA has a positive effect on carotid intima-media thickness (CIMT) and the ASCVD 10-year risk. Main comments 1. In line 123, please delete "c". 2. In the introduction section, please add several sentences to introduce the potential functional mechanisms of UDCA. 3. Please use one or two sentences to indicate the purpose of the study as shown in lines 152/153. 4. In the material and method section, the authors indicated that they have obtained data at 3 months after the study. This will tell us when the improvements stated. 5. In possible, please analyzed the data of men and women separately. This may be helpful for the readers to understand the benefits. 6. The authors have indicated that the benefits of UDCA may derive from its antioxidant effect. Please elaborate how this effects leads to the changes of the clinic parameters shown in this study.