

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 35465

Title: Pretransplantation Fetal-Maternal Microchimerism in Pediatric Liver Transplantation from Mother

Reviewer's code: 00058381

Reviewer's country: Austria

Science editor: Yuan Qi

Date sent for review: 2017-07-20

Date reviewed: 2017-07-21

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y] 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y] 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

Major Comment: Important limitations of this study (in terms of both technical issues and patient numbers) are mentioned by the authors and will not be changeable by revision.

Minor Comments:

Table 1 (last line) obviously requires correction.

Discussion (pages 15/16): "In this reason, we could not show the each beneficial impact of NIMA-MC positivity and same HLA-DR on rejection-free survival rate, as shown in Table 2." – Please improve this sentence.

Results (page 12): "Rejection activity index were variable from 3 to 5; one was RAI 5 and the other 4 recipients were RAI 3." – Please rectify this sentence (plural of "index": "indices" (or

“indexes”)).

Answer: Thanks for your comment summary. These recommendation are corrected and the detailed answer is as follows after reviewers' comment.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 35465

Title: Pretransplantation Fetal-Maternal Microchimerism in Pediatric Liver Transplantation from Mother

Reviewer's code: 00054794

Reviewer's country: Japan

Science editor: Yuan Qi

Date sent for review: 2017-07-20

Date reviewed: 2017-08-13

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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

Conclusion: Minor revision

Classification: Grade B (Very good)

Language Evaluation: Grade C: a great deal of language polishing

Thank you for the opportunity to review the manuscript entitled, "Pretransplantation Fetal-Maternal Microchimerism in Pediatric Liver Transplantation from Mother". Nam-Joon Yi et al. showed the importance of pretransplantation NIMA-MC or HLA-DR identity with the mother for BPCR-free survival in pediatric recipients from maternal donors. I think that it is a very

interesting manuscript about the association between pretransplantation fetal-maternal microchimerism and BPCR in pediatric liver transplantation from mother. Therefore, the manuscript could benefit from revision if the manuscript is revised.

Firstly, this manuscript does not have novelty. Sanada Y et al. showed that maternal grafts protect daughter recipients from acute cellular rejection after pediatric living donor liver transplantation for biliary atresia (Transplant Int 2014). You should add this paper in Reference, and discuss the content.

Answer: Thank you for your kind recommendation. I have added this article to the references list (No. 24) and mentioned the authors' findings in the discussion section of the revised manuscript as follows (page 13, yellow shaded): Sanada et al.^[24] described the importance of gender matching of parental grafts; in particular, the authors showed that maternal grafts were associated with lower incidence of acute cellular rejection than paternal graft in daughters. This finding represents important clinical evidence of the beneficial impact of preexisting NIMA-MC on post-transplantation outcomes in patients with BA.

Secondly, you should show the data of post-transplant NIMA-MC, and the analysis of between post-transplant NIMA-MC and BPCR.

Answer: This study was a retrospective study and unfortunately we have neither the data for

post-transplant NIMA-MC nor the post-transplant follow-up samples to be analyzed for the effect of post-transplant NIMA-MC on BPCR. This has to be verified in a prospective study, and we added following sentence in the discussion section of the revised manuscript (page 14-15, yellow shaded): NIMA-MC detected before transplantation is expected to persist for a long time following transplantation as fetal-maternal MC, when present, has been shown to persist for decades^[7]. However, this has to be verified in a prospective study.

Conclusion: Minor revision

Classification: Grade C (Good)

Language Evaluation: Grade A: priority publishing

Major Comment:

Important limitations of this study (in terms of both technical issues and patient numbers) are mentioned by the authors and will not be changeable by revision.

Answer: Thanks for your review. The limitations of the present study are that it was performed retrospectively with a small sized cohort. A prospective study of a larger cohort should be performed in the future to confirm the findings of this work.

Minor Comments:

Table 1 (last line) obviously requires correction.

Answer: Thank you for the comment, and I have corrected the errors indicated.

Discussion (pages 15/16): “In this reason, we could not show the each beneficial impact of NIMA-MC positivity and same HLA-DR on rejection-free survival rate, as shown in Table 2.” – Please improve this sentence.

Answer: This sentence was used in discussing the limitations of the study, following the third limitation of the study (page 15, blue shaded): “Third, the number of cases examined in this study was small, and further studies on a larger number of patients are warranted.” The sentence you commented for improvement is somewhat confusing and not needed and I decided to delete it. Thank you for the comment.

Results (page 12): “Rejection activity index were variable from 3 to 5; one was RAI 5 and the other 4 recipients were RAI 3.” – Please rectify this sentence (plural of “index”: “indices” (or “indexes”)).

Answer: I have corrected this sentence as follows (page 11, yellow shaded): “Rejection activity indexes varied from 3 to 5; rejection activity index of one of the recipients was 5, while that of the other 4 recipients was 3.”

Additional revision: Abstract was revised (from 185 words to 227 words) according to the editor’s comment, and more detailed descriptions were added in the Methods and Results section (yellow shaded).