

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 79998

**Title:** COVID 19 and liver: Are footprints still there?

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 00000663

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-09-13

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-09-14 13:36

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-09-20 12:46

**Review time:** 5 Days and 23 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 Grade E: Do not publish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</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous

statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The study reviews the relationship between COVID-19 infection and outcomes in relation to liver disease, under different aspects, from pathophysiology of infection to liver disease response. Overall, data are interesting, giving a broad view of what was published in the last 2 years on this relevant topic and preparing for the future. I have a few issues that should be considered: 1) The authors are invited to report how they retrieved and selected the literature 2) The role of ACE receptor and treatment should be better clarified, considering the extensive discussion in the beginning of pandemic. The manuscript would take great advantage of a picture detailing the various aspects involved in this tricky relationship. 3) The chapter of COVID-19 and Liver cirrhosis largely duplicates the one of Chronic liver disease and COVID-19 – in a few cases, same wording. I would greatly suggest to have them merged in a single chapter. 4) Always quote COVID in capital letters 5) COVID-19 and Liver Cirrhosis: the first line is missing something 6) COVID-19 and Autoimmune hepatitis: first line should start as “Very little....”

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 79998

**Title:** COVID 19 and liver: Are footprints still there?

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05744914

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-09-13

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-09-14 15:13

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-09-22 16:13

**Review time:** 8 Days and 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous

statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. On page 1, in “Approximately 15% of patients will eventually have respiratory compromise...” the word “will” should be changed to “would”; 2. “SARS-CoV2” and/or “SARS COV-2” should be unified throughout the text; 3. Please explain shortly what the ACE2 protein/receptor is and where it is expressed somewhere close to the very beginning of the SARS-CoV2 hepatotropism section; 4. Abbreviations like ULN, IL, TNF, GI, etc. should be expanded whenever they occur in the text for the 1st time; 5. On pages 5/6, “The tocilizumab” should be changed to “Tocilizumab” 6. On page 7, kindly please provide some references for the line “Multiple lines of evidence, such as findings from international registries, sizable observational cohorts, and population-level data, have all been used to support this”; 7. On page 9, kindly please provide some references for “...intestinal permeability and dysbiosis linked to cirrhosis...”; 8. I would recommend moving the paragraph about how “it is still unclear how the highly frequent Omicron variation affects patients with CLD and cirrhosis” somewhere higher, closer to the beginning of the review (as some kind of a disclaimer); 9. On page 11, “to have drank” should be changed to “to have drunk”; 10. On page 13, please clarify “SARS and CoV-2 infections”; 11. Are there any studies dealing with whether different stages of N/MAFLD (i.e., steatosis, steatohepatitis, fibrosis) differentially affect the course and/or outcomes of COVID-19? If so, please clarify shortly; 12. On page 14, “A very little” should be changed to “very little”; 13. On page 15, kindly please provide some references and/or supporting evidence for “Possibly these persistent antigens cause immune dysfunction and low-grade persistent inflammation”; 14. On page 15, please rewrite “Effects of COVID Already mRNA vaccines” for clarity; 15. I would suggest expanding the conclusion a bit so as to include the information on which liver disease

has the most impact on the course/and or outcomes of COVID-19, and vice versa, etc. I would also recommend shortly mentioning further research directions in Conclusion; 16. Please rescale Figure 1 so as to avoid the disruption of long words, e.g. “Dysregulate\_d”, etc. Also, “underlaying” should be changed to “underlying”.

## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 79998

**Title:** COVID 19 and liver: Are footprints still there?

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 00000663

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-09-13

**Reviewer chosen by:** Yu-Lu Chen

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-10-24 09:55

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-10-24 10:07

**Review time:** 1 Hour

**Scientific quality**

☐ Grade A: Excellent   ☐ Grade B: Very good   ☒ Grade C: Good  
☐ Grade D: Fair   ☐ Grade E: Do not publish



**Baishideng  
Publishing  
Group**

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

<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>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**

No Comment