

Jin-Lei Wang, Director, Editorial Office

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Dear Director

Thank you for your careful consideration of our manuscript, ESPS-5330, entitled "**Anti-viral therapy for reducing recurrence and improving survival of HBV-related HCC**".

In accordance with the very helpful comments from the reviewers, we have revised our manuscript. Our responses to the reviewers' comments are written out below in the following way: each reviewer comment is typed in italics and our response and revision are typed beneath it. I am also sending our revised manuscript.

We hope that you will consider this revised version suitable for publication in **World Journal of Gastroenterology**.

Yours Sincerely,

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The author of this manuscript intends to review a strategy for preventing recurrence of HBV-related HCC and improving survival of the patients using antiviral therapy including nucleotide analogues and IFNs. This manuscript needs extensive English polishing and editing for publication in WJG. Some examples of minor comments are described below.

***Referee Comments***

***Referee 1***

***Referee's Comments 1:***

*Page 1 (title page), line 4. Strategy of HBV-related HCC → Strategy for HBV-related HCC.*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 1:**

I exchanged "Strategy for HBV-related HCC" .

***Referee's Comments 2:*** Page 2, line 4. 75%-80% → 75-80%.

**Reply to Referee's Comments 2:**

I exchanged

***Referee's Comments 3:***

*Page 2, line 5. Is the predominant → is a predominant...*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 3:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 4:***

*Page 2, line 9. HBV-DNA high viral loads → A high viral load of HBV-DNA is...*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 4:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 5:***

*Page 2, line 11. May be decreased HBV-DNA → may decrease HBV-DNA.*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 5:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 6:***

*Page 2, line 12. Be decreased recurrence → decrease recurrence.*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 6:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 7:***

*Page 2, line 13. Speculated → described.*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 7:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 8:***

*Page 2, line 24. Post treatment → post-treatment.*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 8:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 9:***

*Page 3, line 10. 70%-80% → 70-80%.*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 9:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 11:***

*Page 3, line 18. [ → ].*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 11:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 12:***

*Page 3, line 20. Nucleic acid analogues → NAs.*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 12:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 13:***

*Page 3, line 22. Nucleic acid analogues → NAs.*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 13:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 14:***

*Page 4, line 3. In another study by Xia et al. → Xia et al.*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 14:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 15:***

*Page 5, line 10. Kim et al analyzed the excluded patients using.. → analyzed the excluded patients from using...*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 15:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 16:***

*Page 5, line 17. Nucleotide analogues → NAs. 17.*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 16:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 19:***

*Page 7, line 1. Nucleic acid analogues → NAs.*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 19:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 23:***

*In Reference section, there are two No. 19 and No. 20 references, respectively.*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 23:**

I exchanged.

However, I did not find as below.

***Referee's Comments 10:***

*Page 3, line 12. Against a → based on the.*

***Referee's Comments 17:***

*Page 6, line 3. "from" should be omitted.??*

***Referee's Comments 18:***

*Page 6, line 7. "seen" should be "compared"*

***Referee's Comments 20:***

*Page 7, line 3. Opinion is divided regarding → It is unclear that.*

***Referee's Comments 21:***

*Page 7, line 11. "have" should be "has".*

***Referee's Comments 22:***

*Page 7, line 15. Treatment for HCC → treatment of HCC.*

In this manuscript by Ishikawa et al., they reviewed the effect of anti-viral therapy on reducing recurrence and improving survival in patients with HBV-related HCC. The aim of this review is important, therefore this article is expected to be read by many physicians and investigators. The authors revised according to the reviewer's comments. However, there are several parts which they should revise.

***Referee's Comments 1:***

*In page 2, line 11-12. The authors should correct to "nucleos(t)ide analogues (NA) may decrease HBV-DNA. So these drugs may decrease recurrence"*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 1:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 2:***

*In page 3, line 18. The authors should correct "[15]" to "[15]".*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 2:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 3:***

*In page 3, line 20. The authors should correct "nucleic acid analogues" to "NAs".*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 3:**

I exchanged.

***Referee's Comments 4:***

*In page 4, line 23. The authors should describe the full spell of "AFP".*

**Reply to Referee's Comments 4:**

I describe the full spell of "AFP".

***Referee's Comments 5:***

*In page 4, line 7-13, "Kim et al ~". It is difficult to understand the sentences. Kim et al*

*excluded the patients treated with anti-viral drugs. Therefore, the sentence “Kim et al analyzed the excluded patients using antiviral drugs” is wrong.*

**Reply to Referee’s Comments 5:**

I exchanged as Kim et al. [22] analyzed the excluded patients from using antiviral drugs.

***Referee’s Comments 6:***

*In page 5, line 17, and other parts. The authors should correct “Lamivudine” to “LVD”.*

**Reply to Referee’s Comments 6:**

I exchanged.

***Referee’s Comments 7:***

*In page 6, line 1. The authors should describe the full spell of “HBcrAg”.*

**Reply to Referee’s Comments 7:**

I describe the full spell of “HBcrAg”.

***Referee’s Comments 8:***

*In page 7, line 9, and other parts. The authors should correct “entecavir” to “ETV”.*

**Reply to Referee’s Comments 8:**

I exchanged.

***Referee’s Comments 9:***

*In page 8, line 23 and 24. The authors should describe the full spells of “HBsAg” and “HBeAg”.*

**Reply to Referee’s Comments 9:**

I described the full spells of “HBsAg” and “HBeAg”.