



# Baishideng Publishing Group Co., Limited

Flat C, 23/F., Lucky Plaza,  
315-321 Lockhart Road,  
Wan Chai, Hong Kong, China

## ESPS Peer-review Report

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 7885

**Title:** Viral Characters not Nucleoside Analogue Itself Correlated to Host Immune in Chronic HBV Patients Treated with Nucleoside Analogue

**Reviewer code:** 02462702

**Science editor:** Ma, Ya-Juan

**Date sent for review:** 2013-12-05 09:07

**Date reviewed:** 2013-12-07 17:24

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	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"/> Existed	<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"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It was a nicely performed study. Despite a relatively small sample size, it is understandable as extensively immunological assays were carried out. Just some minor comments which may improve the presentation of findings. 1. Were genotypic resistance assay performed to patients who still had detectable HBV DNA at last visit? Was there any association between host immune response and risk of drug resistant mutations? 2. Please also provide the quantitative HBsAg levels at different time points. 3. Please justify this sample size. What assumption was used when you estimate this sample size? Also there was some discrepancy between the final sample size (52) and the planned sample size (56) according to ClinicalTrials.gov. Please explain. 4. Please explain why there was uneven no. of patients in each arm (28 in lamivudine and 24 in telbivudine). How was the randomization carried out? In block of 4? If so it was impossible to have this uneven distribution of no. of patients in two arms. Were there in fact some dropout? Please state the reasons of dropout if there was any.



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**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 7885

**Title:** Viral Characters not Nucleoside Analogue Itself Correlated to Host Immune in Chronic HBV Patients Treated with Nucleoside Analogue

**Reviewer code:** 00506450

**Science editor:** Ma, Ya-Juan

**Date sent for review:** 2013-12-05 09:07

**Date reviewed:** 2014-01-14 22:02

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	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"/> Existed	<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"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
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<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The data suggested that NAs might restore the host immune through reduce HBV replication, but there lack evidence on whether there are difference between different NAs and little is known about the relationship of host immune change and HBeAg level on nucleoside analogues (NAs) therapy. The aim of this paper to determine the relationship between host immune in patients with chronic hepatitis B (CHB) receiving different NAs and viral characters or NAs itself. This is an interesting paper with reasonable hypothesis, logical work and nice illustration.