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Wan Chai, Hong Kong, China

## ESPS Peer-review Report

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 2041

**Title:** HMGB1 Gene Polymorphism Among Patients With Chronic Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) Infection

**Reviewer code:** 00071368

**Science editor:** Huang, Xin-Zhen

**Date sent for review:** 2013-01-24 11:33

**Date reviewed:** 2013-02-06 02:02

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
<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

In this study, Deng et al found an association between the 1176 G/C polymorphism of HMGB1, a proinflammatory mediator, and hepatitis B virus infection. The results suggest that HMGB1 is a mediator of the immune response to hepatitis B virus infection. Several issues need to be addressed by the authors: Specific points: 1) The 1176 G/C polymorphism of HMGB1 needs to be better described. Where it is located in the sequence HMGB1, and whether it affects HMGB1 transcription need to be clarified. The rationale of studying this polymorphism also needs to be spelled out. Any other findings about this polymorphism need to be discussed as well. 2) Have the authors looked at other HMGB1 polymorphisms and find any association? Have the authors looked at polymorphisms of other proinflammation mediators on the same cohort? Is there any functional data suggesting that HMGB1 is involved in hepatitis B virus infection? These should be addressed with additional discussion. 3) Description of the results is too brief and should be elaborated more. There are quite a few grammar mistakes that should be corrected.