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Wan Chai, Hong Kong, China

ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 5207

Title: Pediatric nonalcoholic steatohepatitis: the first report on the ultrastructure of hepatocyte mitochondria

Reviewer code: 02541868

Science editor: Wen, Ling-Ling

Date sent for review: 2013-08-22 20:58

Date reviewed: 2013-08-26 23:33

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search: <input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	BPG Search: <input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)			<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The title "Pediatric nonalcoholic steatohepatitis: the first report on the ultrastructure of hepatocyte mitochondria" accurately reflects the major topic and contents of the study.

The Abstract provides a clear delineation of the research background, objectives, materials and methods, results (including important data) and conclusions. The innovative and significant points conform to the background, objectives, materials and methods, results (including important data) and conclusions.

Among exclusion criteria of patients with metabolic liver disease, was hemochromatosis included? Were any special stains used?

In the description of ultrastructural changes, no mention is made of nuclear morphology.

This could be important as animal models of NASH (eg: Iatropoulos, M.J., Duan, Jian-Dong, Jeffrey, A.M., Leach, M.W., Hayes, A.N., Stedman, N.L., Williams, G.M. Hepatocellular proliferation and hepatocarcinogen bioactivation in mice with diet-induced fatty liver and obesity. *Exper. Toxicol. Pathol.*, 65: 451-456, 2013) have shown increased levels of hepatocellular proliferation.



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ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 5207

Title: Pediatric nonalcoholic steatohepatitis: the first report on the ultrastructure of hepatocyte mitochondria

Reviewer code: 01803692

Science editor: Wen, Ling-Ling

Date sent for review: 2013-08-22 20:58

Date reviewed: 2013-10-04 11:51

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search: <input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	BPG Search: <input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)			<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Lotowska et al., did electron microscopic analysis of pediatric NASH livers and found mitochondrial morphological abnormalities. These findings suggest a possible pathogenesis of pediatric NASH. Major points 1. It is inconclusive whether electron microscopic examination is useful as a diagnostic method. Abnormalities of mitochondrial ultrastructure are not specific for NASH. The authors need to tone down this statement throughout the paper. 2. Did the authors rule out the possibility of hemochromatosis and citrin deficiency? 3. The authors should discuss in more details about the etiology of mitochondrial morphological changes. Are these changes seen in other diseases, such as hereditary mitochondrialopathy and drug-induced liver injury? 4. Figures, arrows, arrowheads, asterisks, etc. are unclear and hard to be recognized. Need to improve presentation. Include size bars in the pictures. Minor points Need English polishing



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ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 5207

Title: Pediatric nonalcoholic steatohepatitis: the first report on the ultrastructure of hepatocyte mitochondria

Reviewer code: 00037668

Science editor: Wen, Ling-Ling

Date sent for review: 2013-08-22 20:58

Date reviewed: 2013-10-12 01:59

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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This study appears to be properly conducted from the technical view-point. The conclusions of the authors are supported by the data reported. The only criticisms are: 1. It is unclear whether the representative figures reported in the manuscript are obtained from different patients. If so it should be stated. 2. Some sort of quantitation (e.g. # of HSC in the Disse space, or % of observed modifications) of the anatomical or morphological changes observed should be provided. This would enhance the significance of the reported data. If not possible, this should also be stated.