

## ESPS Peer-review Report

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6772

**Title:** HBeAg NEGATIVE VARIANTS AND THEIR ROLE IN THE NATURAL HISTORY OF CHRONIC HEPATITIS B VIRUS INFECTION

**Reviewer code:** 02444878

**Science editor:** Cui, Xue-Mei

**Date sent for review:** 2013-10-29 21:23

**Date reviewed:** 2013-11-19 13:46

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This manuscript entitled HBeAg NEGATIVE VARIANTS AND THEIR ROLE IN THE NATURAL HISTORY OF CHRONIC HEPATITIS B VIRUS INFECTION is a well written manuscript and highlights an important problem. Some of the references are not in Vancouver style and needs modification.

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**Title:** HBeAg NEGATIVE VARIANTS AND THEIR ROLE IN THE NATURAL HISTORY OF CHRONIC HEPATITIS B VIRUS INFECTION

**Reviewer code:** 01560565

**Science editor:** Cui, Xue-Mei

**Date sent for review:** 2013-10-29 21:23

**Date reviewed:** 2013-12-13 08:01

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" 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	<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

General comments: This review was clear and comprehensive. Particularly, the virologic aspects of precore and basal core promoter mutants were clearly introduced. However, some issues are suggested to be further addressed. Specific comments: 1. The epidemiology of precore and basal core promoter mutations may be summarized in figure or table. Their correlations with the differential distribution of HBV genotype can also be described. 2. The biologic significance of HBsAg quantitation (qHBsAg) may be explained in more detail; and the clinical significance of qHBsAg may be summarized in Table. 3. Current forms of figures 1 and 2 would not be easy to general readers to follow.