



# BAISHIDENG PUBLISHING GROUP INC

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## ESPS Peer-review Report

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 9017

**Title:** Chronic hepatitis C and liver fibrosis

**Reviewer code:** 00030389

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2014-01-16 18:37

**Date reviewed:** 2014-01-26 21:57

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

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors reviewed the epidemiology, mechanism of fibrosis, clinical impact of fibrosis, validity of biopsy, and non-invasive assessment of fibrosis on HCV infection. They mainly described non-invasive assessment of fibrosis, which is thoroughly described and is interesting. There are a few comments. Major comments #1. Page 14, lines 2-4. Why the patients with genotype 2 or 3 can be treated regardless of fibrosis stages? SVR rate for genotype 1 has been improved by DAAs to be as high as that for genotype 2 or 3. Minor comments #1. Page 3, line 12-13. Anti-HCV agents are NS3/4A inhibitors, NS5A inhibitors and NS5B inhibitors are available or are going to be available. #2. Page 4, line 18. Please cite other ECM proteins other than collage also. #3. Table 6. Reference should be better if the name of authors and the year of publish are described.



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## ESPS Peer-review Report

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 9017

**Title:** Chronic hepatitis C and liver fibrosis

**Reviewer code:** 00007630

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2014-01-16 18:37

**Date reviewed:** 2014-02-12 17:40

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

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The paper by Sebastiani et al. is a comprehensive review of the basic concepts at the basis of HCV-dependent liver fibrogenesis and of the methods for the assessment of liver fibrosis that are routinely used in clinical practice. Overall, the review is well written and focused on relevant concepts. I have only few methodological points that in my opinion, can improve the quality of the paper. - The tables summarizing the diagnostic accuracy estimates for the diagnosis of liver fibrosis /cirrhosis reports sensitivity, specificity and PPV and NPV. These last two parameters (PPV and NPV) that actually represent the post-test probability of the disease do not add any information to the reader if the pretest probability, ( e.g. the prevalence of the disease) is not concomitantly reported. Thus my suggestion is to add to the tables also the range of prevalence of the disease for all the parameters reported (inserting also the references to the studies from which these estimates are derived). Another option is to add to these tables also the positive and negative likelihood ratios (LR+ and LR-) that are really useful parameters in order to inform the reader about the ability of the test to accurately exclude (LR<0.1) or confirm the diagnosis (LR+ > or LR+ > 10).



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## ESPS Peer-review Report

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 9017

**Title:** Chronic hepatitis C and liver fibrosis

**Reviewer code:** 00054329

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2014-01-16 18:37

**Date reviewed:** 2014-02-24 02:05

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

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a well written ,comprehensive , extensive review on the subject . Maybe this review article should be shortened , namely the text but not the tables .(to check with the Editor-in-Chief) Because this is a PDF version ,my correction proposals are included within the corpus of the manuscript into "bubbles" which have to be activated and the text is visualized . What is underlined in yellow , should be deleted or replaced by some other sentence or abbreviation (like Fibroscan replaced by LSM) I join also a Word doc with an example of the METAVIR scheme (which has been to be re-drawn by the author , with the liver histology correspondance ).