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ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 8722

Title: Histopathology of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease/nonalcoholic steatohepatitis

Reviewer code: 00068215

Science editor: Qi, Yuan

Date sent for review: 2014-01-04 15:55

Date reviewed: 2014-01-19 06:42

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)	<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

The paper of Takahashi and Fukusato highlights the current literature about the histopathology of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and also compares the histological characteristics between adult cases and children. This paper is well organized and written and of interest to WJG readers. The topic itself is interesting for gastroenterologists as well as for pathologists. It is known that liver biopsy suffers from intra- and inter-observer reading variability, especially in non alcoholic fatty liver disease, which leads to a missed diagnosis of NASH in up to 27% of cases. The major message of this paper is the need to define clearly criteria for histological evaluation of NAFLD for adult and also for children. Some minor comments: The authors should include in their review the paper by Ratziu V et al. Sampling variability of liver biopsy in nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (Gastroenterology, 2005)



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ESPS Manuscript NO: 8722

Title: Histopathology of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease/nonalcoholic steatohepatitis

Reviewer code: 02541410

Science editor: Qi, Yuan

Date sent for review: 2014-01-04 15:55

Date reviewed: 2014-01-21 03:34

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	<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

The review is trying to comprehensively report the histopathological features of nonalcoholic fatty liver diseases (NAFLD) and nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH). The authors concluded that the pathological assessment remains the gold standard for the diagnosis of the diseases. However, the authors did not mention anything in terms of comparison with other methods, especially recently developed molecular marker approach. The authors believe that criteria for assessing the histopathological features could be established but there is no author's suggestion. Other than that, there are many confusing sentences in the text. For example, the last sentence in abstract doesn't make sense. If this is review paper, the author doesn't need to mention "including the results of our studies...."; In diagnosis of NASH, the paragraph cannot be followed; In the conclusion, this paragraph is difficult to be followed.



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ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 8722

Title: Histopathology of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease/nonalcoholic steatohepatitis

Reviewer code: 02523899

Science editor: Qi, Yuan

Date sent for review: 2014-01-04 15:55

Date reviewed: 2014-01-25 07:34

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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Grammatical revisions: - Do not have to add period after "et al" (example: et al.) - Page 4, line 14: insert "a" - Page 10, line 5: remove comma - Page 11, line 23: remove semicolon and insert comma - Page 12, line 6: remove comma - Page 13, lines 18, 19: insert commas ",borderline zone 3 NASH," Content recommendations: - Steatosis section: Consider combining the first two sentences of this paragraph - Fibrosis section: Remove parentheses from "known as burn-out NASH" and incorporate into the preceding sentence. -Steatohepatitic HCC (line 6): change "long period" to "extended period of time" Key questions: Is this article relevant? - Yes - I believe the audience will be limited to those with an educational background in pathology. However, histopathological evaluations of NAFLD/NASH remain the gold standard for diagnosis and a review of current recommendations and findings will be very constructive for other pathologists. Is this article original? - Somewhat - This article serves as more of an educational review for pathologists. Original research is presented but this is not the main focus of this article. This article could be used as a comprehensive refresher on the pathological changes that occur with NASH/NAFLD, but I do not think it will significantly alter clinical practice. Is the article comprehensive? - Yes - It adequately covers the histological findings of both NASH and NAFLD. The authors are very thorough in the descriptions of these changes and cite many studies to backup their research. Is the article accurate? - Yes - My knowledge on this subject is very limited. However, after researching the topic more online this article closely matches what is stated in several reputable sources. Is the article clear? -Somewhat - Because this is such a broad topic, it is difficult to develop consistent flow with the subject matter. I've listed some of my recommendations below:

- o Steatohepatitic HCC should be mentioned in the introduction
- o Consider moving the



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diagnosis and staging criteria section to the beginning of the article o The last paragraph in the pediatric section discussing elevated ALT could be incorporated into the earlier paragraph to assist with flow Is the article important? - Yes - I believe this article will be very educational to those concerned with the histopathological changes in NAFLD/NASH.