



ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 26191

Title: Hepatocyte nuclear factors in hepatitis B virus infection

Reviewer's code: 00504365

Reviewer's country: Portugal

Science editor: Jing Yu

Date sent for review: 2016-04-05 10:50

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	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"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a good review that summarizes the current knowledge on the role of HFNs in HBV replication. It is generally well written and I believe it will be of interest for the readers of WJG. I have some specific suggestions that may help improve the manuscript: 1- On pg 3, lane 14, "... four types of HBV RNAs..." and on pg 5, lane 22, "... five types of viral RNAs...". Please, adopt one criteria. 2- Pg 4, lane 14, I would rather say "... more stages than those of most other viruses;" 3- Pg 5, lane, 14, influenza is not a large virus as well as HBV cannot also be considered a large one. Please, correct the sentence. 4- Pg 6, second paragraph, would benefit if the reference cited is not a book chapter but rather the original papers. 5 -Pg 9, references are needed in subsection "Structure of HBV enhancers and their regulatory transcription factors". Also, this subsection is the sole in section "promoters and enhancers in HBV cccDNA". They can, perhaps, be merged. 6- Pg 10, 3rd paragraph: The statement about stimulation of HBV replication as a consequence of mutations is not very precise. Mutations in HBV genome can also have the opposite effect. I understand the authors are referring to a specific mutation but the sentence is very general.



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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an excellent review. HBV infection is a global public health problem. As a template for HBV transcription, cccDNA plays a central role in HBV transcription and replication. Hepatocyte nuclear factors (HNFs) play an important role in cccDNA transcription. This review summarizes and discusses the role of HNFs in HBV life cycle: HNFs regulate cccDNA transcription by directly interacting with HBx, which enhances the DNA-binding activity of HNFs.