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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology
ESPS manuscript NO: 27652
Title: Differential patterns of pre-S deletions and their association with hepatitis B virus genotypes
Reviewer's code: 01800523
Reviewer's country: Japan
Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong
Date sent for review: 2016-06-14 18:56
Date reviewed: 2016-06-26 19:31

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A: Excellent	[Y] Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	[ ] Accept
[ ] Grade B: Very good	[ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing	[ ] The same title	[ ] High priority for publication
[Y] Grade C: Good	[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	[ ] Duplicate publication	[ ] Rejection
[ ] Grade D: Fair	[ ] Grade D: Rejected	[ ] Plagiarism	[Y] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	[ ] Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		[ ] The same title	
		[ ] Duplicate publication	
		[ ] Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

None

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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology
ESPS manuscript NO: 27652
Title: Differential patterns of pre-S deletions and their association with hepatitis B virus genotypes
Reviewer's code: 00227403
Reviewer's country: Italy
Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong
Date sent for review: 2016-06-14 18:56
Date reviewed: 2016-06-27 17:45

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A: Excellent	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	[ ] Accept
[Y] Grade B: Very good	[Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing	[ ] The same title	[ ] High priority for publication
[ ] Grade C: Good	[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	[ ] Duplicate publication	[ ] Rejection
[ ] Grade D: Fair	[ ] Grade D: Rejected	[ ] Plagiarism	[Y] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	[ ] Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		[ ] The same title	
		[ ] Duplicate publication	
		[ ] Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

-Why only 86 out of 126 HBV carriers who harbored the pre-S deletion mutants were examined according to genotype? -In the section Patients and methods when you start with a sample change the number in letters (see, for example 55, 218) -In the included cohort, has the author excluded the others standard causes of liver disease? This should be reported. -Has the author a pattern of HDV profile on this cohort? -In the section discussion "etc" should be avoided. -In the section discussion when the author discussed the association between HBV genotype prevalence and the patterns of pre-S deletion associated with progressive liver diseases (as HCC), it should be highlighted that this is another piece in a field of investigations that involves other aspects as mutations in X region, mutations in BCP region and in pre-core regaion (Lee et al. World J Gastroenterol 2016;22:5393-9), MicroRNA (MiRNA) (Petrini et al. Panminerva Medica 2015; 57:201-9).

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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology
ESPS manuscript NO: 27652
Title: Differential patterns of pre-S deletions and their association with hepatitis B virus genotypes
Reviewer's code: 02992674
Reviewer's country: India
Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong
Date sent for review: 2016-06-14 18:56
Date reviewed: 2016-06-28 16:10

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A: Excellent	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	[ ] Accept
[ ] Grade B: Very good	[Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing	[ ] The same title	[ ] High priority for publication
[ ] Grade C: Good	[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	[ ] Duplicate publication	[ ] Rejection
[Y] Grade D: Fair	[ ] Grade D: Rejected	[ ] Plagiarism	[Y] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	[ ] Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		[ ] The same title	
		[ ] Duplicate publication	
		[ ] Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It has been reported by several groups that pre S deletions and mutations are associated more with the progression of liver diseases to HCC than asymptomatic carrier (Chen CH, 2007, Dake Zhang, 2012; Lin CL, 2007;Chao Wang, 2015;) The rate of preS deletion is higher in HBV genotype C than genotype B. Here the authors have looked into the association of preS1, PreS2 and surface mutants with the progression of liver diseases and effect of HBV genotype B and C. This is a repeat study in HBV infected Taiwaneese people. Study has been conducted with enough number of patients with different disease stages and a group of new mutations has been reported. There is no explanation of using 43 patients in each of the genotype B and C group though they have more than 60 patients in respective groups. In Table 1: total number of patients in progressive disease stages is 92 while collectively four stages show 96 in wild type preS mutant. There are few typing mistakes.

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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology
ESPS manuscript NO: 27652
Title: Differential patterns of pre-S deletions and their association with hepatitis B virus genotypes
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Reviewer's country: South Korea
Science editor: Ze-Mao Gong
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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A: Excellent	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	[ ] Accept
[Y] Grade B: Very good	[Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing	[ ] The same title	[ ] High priority for publication
[ ] Grade C: Good	[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	[ ] Duplicate publication	[ ] Rejection
[ ] Grade D: Fair	[ ] Grade D: Rejected	[ ] Plagiarism	[Y] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	[ ] Major revision
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		[ ] The same title	
		[ ] Duplicate publication	
		[ ] Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Author of this manuscript described the differential patterns of pre-S deletions in association with hepatitis B virus genotypes. It is very useful information to predict the prognosis and clinical outcomes. It would be better to compare/describe the pre-S/S mutations including pre-S deletions, too. In Table 1, author calculated the p value as whole the progressive liver diseases between WT pre-S vs pre-S deletion. I suggest that the individual p values by CH, LC, NC-HCC, and LC-HCC between WT pre-S vs pre-S deletion. Same thing is applied to Table 2, too. The individual p values by CH, LC, NC-HCC, and LC-HCC between HBV genotype B vs HBV genotype C.