

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 27216

Title: Effect of switching from treatment with nucleos(t)ide analogues to pegylated interferon α -2a on virological and serological response in chronic hepatitis B patients

Reviewer's code: 00504231

Reviewer's country: Italy

Science editor: Jing Yu

Date sent for review: 2016-06-22 09:04

Date reviewed: 2016-06-28 23:59

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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this paper, the Authors investigated the efficacy and safety of switching to pegylated interferon- α -2a (PegIFN α -2a) treatment in nucleos(t)ide analogue-treated (NA-treated) chronic hepatitis B (CHB) patients successfully treated with Entecavir. The topic is of great interest, in fact in the recent years several attempts have been performed in order to transform a "long-life" treatment with NAs in a treatment of a "finite" duration. The paper is well written and I feel that it can be considered for publication after minor revisions. Comments: In the Abstract, section Aims should be changed to: To investigate the efficacy of switching to pegylated interferon- α -2a (PegIFN α -2a) treatment in nucleos(t)ide analogue-treated (NA-treated) chronic hepatitis B (CHB) responder patients. In the Abstract, section Conclusions: the reference to the "inappreciable risk of long-term resistance" is inappropriate, therefore it should be delete. In the Introduction, the Authors say that " NAs all produce drug resistance". It is not correct, in fact after 8 years of Tenofovir therapy the resistance rate is 0%. Through all the text, "HbsAg" or "HbeAg" should be corrected to "HBsAg" and "HBeAg".