

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 34325

**Title:** A single amino acid mutant of SR-BI decreases the infectivity of HCVcc in cell culture model

**Reviewer's code:** 00068235

**Reviewer's country:** Pakistan

**Science editor:** Yuan Qi

**Date sent for review:** 2017-04-18

**Date reviewed:** 2017-04-18

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
[ Y ] 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
[ ] Grade C: Good	[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	[ ] Duplicate publication	[ ] Rejection
[ ] Grade D: Fair	[ ] Grade D: Rejected	[ Y ] No	[ Y ] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	[ ] Major revision
		[ ] The same title	
		[ ] Duplicate publication	
		[ ] Plagiarism	
		[ Y ] No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In the manuscript entitled "A single amino acid mutant of SR-BI decreases the infectivity of HCVcc in cell culture model" by Gao et al., the authors did site directed mutagenesis in SR-BI and studied the decrease in infectivity of HCVcc in Huh7 cell lines. The paper is well written and well presented. I will suggest you to add couple of lines about the situation of Hepatitis C in China and what efforts government is taking to control hepatitis. The single mutant S112F did big change in SR-BI activity, please explain the location of S112 amino acid in the SR-BI protein e.g. In which domain/region of SR-BI S112 amino acid is present, what is the function of that region. What is expected to happen in protein if an amino acid from Polar uncharged group is changed to aromatic amino acid. Additional comments (not mandatory but to be added if easily manageable). If you add a figure of SR-BI protein by using bioinformatics tools and highlights the amino acid 112 with both wild and mutant amino acid. The paper is accepted for publication after minor revision.

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

**Manuscript NO:** 34325

**Title:** A single amino acid mutant of SR-BI decreases the infectivity of HCVcc in cell culture model

**Reviewer's code:** 02528622

**Reviewer's country:** United States

**Science editor:** Yuan Qi

**Date sent for review:** 2017-04-18

**Date reviewed:** 2017-05-11

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 type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		BPG Search:	<input checked="" 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

In this paper by Gao and cols., the authors describe the effect on infectivity exerted by one single amino acid mutation in the SR-BI gene. The work aims to identify host factors contributing to the HCV infectivity. Major comments: -The authors should describe in much more detail their method section. Particularly, the generation of the SR-BI mutant cell line. - Is this a transient or stable transfection? - Is the plasmid integrating into the genomic DNA? How many copies of the mutated gene were identified in the cell line? How the expression of the native gene (unmutated), is suppressed after transfection with the mutated construction? - Why the authors did not include the T175A mutant in their study? - Why the authors did not include other mutants not expected to have an effect on infectivity as control/reference - The authors should be encouraged to explain in more detail the behavior of their vector control. Both, HCV infectivity and SR-BI expression seemed to be significantly affected by the vector without the insert. How the authors explain this behavior?