

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 49114

**Title:** Construction of replication-competent hepatitis B virus vector carrying secreted luciferase transgene and new hepatitis B virus replication and expression cell lines

**Reviewer's code:** 00225294

**Reviewer's country:** Spain

**Science editor:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-05-20 09:59

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-05-23 17:58

**Review time:** 3 Days and 7 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors describe the construction of a replication competent HBV vector tagged with a luciferase transgene to obtain modified HepG2 cells in which further mechanistic and therapeutic assays can be done in an easy way. There are several publications

describing the construction of HBV vectors to be used in similar ways. Here the authors demonstrate that this construction is able to replicate and to show some of the characteristics of the parental HBV. However, the novelty is not clear in the field, unless the authors provide convincing evidence in support of the originality of this construct vs other that have been prepared in different forms, including nucleocapsids, adeno-associated constructs, etc. This needs to be a little be more elaborated or assayed (effect on cell differentiation; changes in gene expression, proliferation as cell xenotransplants in mice, etc.). I am ready to recognize the value of a new tool for the study of HBV physiopathology in the HepG2 model. Authors need to put in value their construction vs other prepared by other groups. Overall, the manuscript needs an in depth revision of the English structure since in some parts, in addition to grammatical errors, the wording is complex and difficult to understand de idea behind the mind of the authors.

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

##### ***Google Search:***

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

##### ***BPG Search:***

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 49114

**Title:** Construction of replication-competent hepatitis B virus vector carrying secreted luciferase transgene and new hepatitis B virus replication and expression cell lines

**Reviewer's code:** 00503243

**Reviewer's country:** Italy

**Science editor:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-05-28 08:56

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-06-14 10:44

**Review time:** 17 Days and 1 Hour

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting manuscript on the construction of replication-competent hepatitis B virus vector carrying secrete luciferase transgene to improve the efficiency of development of new anti-HBV drugs and contribute to clarify many issues regarding



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HBV research. Methods are fine and the results confirm this interesting study.

#### INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

##### *Google Search:*

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- ☐ No

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- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No