

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 74956

Title: Epidemiological and clinical aspects of HBV infection in Italy over the last 50 years

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03725279

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Italy

Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-12

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-01-13 00:28

Reviewer performed review: 2022-01-14 14:30

Review time: 1 Day and 14 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous



**Baishideng
Publishing
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA
Telephone: +1-925-399-1568
E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
<https://www.wjgnet.com>

statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. This manuscript summarizes the epidemic trend and prevention measures of hepatitis B virus in Italy in the past 50 years, and the challenges faced in recent years. This manuscript is of great scientific significance for scholars to understand the status of hepatitis B virus in Italy. 2. It is recommended that the authors add contrast in HBV status and control measures with the country with large HBV patients (e.g., China), thereby providing readers with a better understanding of the present situation in Italy. 3. In Table 1, why did the author choose 0-14 years old, 15-24 years old, 25-34 years old, 35-54 years old and ≥ 55 years old for grouping? Does this grouping have specific scientific significance? 4. It is suggested that the data in Table 1 should be transformed into a line chart to make it more readable after more scientific adjustment of age grouping.

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Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 02592404

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Lecturer

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: Italy

Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-12

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-01-12 10:44

Reviewer performed review: 2022-01-22 12:41

Review time: 10 Days and 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous

statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this paper, Sagnelli et al. summarized epidemiology of HBV infection in Italy. They described that HBV infection decreased gradually after introducing several policies such as universal vaccination and educational campaigns. Additionally, they mentioned the negative effects of COVID-19 pandemic on the trend towards HBV eradication. The manuscript is written well but I have some specific comments as below. 1. The incident rate of acute hepatitis B in Italy is shown in Table 1. Additionally, please make another table that summarizes HBsAg-positive rate in different area and different years with appropriate references. It would be helpful to understand the tendency of HBV epidemiology in Italy. 2. It is described that COVID-19 pandemic has interrupted the trend towards HBV eradication, but data showing this interruption is not mentioned enough. Please show more data on this point with appropriate references. 3. In the abstract, please correct “COVID-19 C pandemic” to “COVID-19 pandemic”. 4. Please spell out abbreviations such as “SARS-CoV2” and “COVID-19” when appear first in the main text.

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Manuscript NO: 74956

Title: Epidemiological and clinical aspects of HBV infection in Italy over the last 50 years

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03656599

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Italy

Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-12

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-01-18 07:18

Reviewer performed review: 2022-01-26 15:10

Review time: 8 Days and 7 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous

statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This manuscript analyzes the changes of hepatitis B epidemiology in Italy in recent years and the causes of the changes, but I think it is not suitable for publication now. The content of the study is too superficial and it is not innovative enough, either. It only mentions the incidence of hepatitis B without involving other indicators, and the reasons affecting the epidemiology mentioned are well known, so it cannot point out the direction or focus of future research for clinical or scientific research. The data explanation part of the article is not clear enough, and it would be better to figures to reflect the decline in hepatitis B prevalence caused by immigration, hepatitis B vaccine or other factors. More data should be provided on the limited diagnosis and treatment of HBV patients as a result of COVID-19.

RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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Manuscript NO: 74956

Title: Epidemiological and clinical aspects of HBV infection in Italy over the last 50 years

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05166036

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: DVSc, PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Senior Scientist

Reviewer's Country/Territory: India

Author's Country/Territory: Italy

Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-12

Reviewer chosen by: Yu-Lu Chen

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-04-07 05:26

Reviewer performed review: 2022-04-08 15:06

Review time: 1 Day and 9 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The revised version looks okay and may be accepted.