

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 75522

Title: Risk factors and diagnostic biomarkers for nonalcoholic fatty liver disease-associated hepatocellular carcinoma: Current evidence and future perspectives

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05365311

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Associate Chief Physician, Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Japan

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Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-02-03 05:44

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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 Grade E: Do not publish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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input 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 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

This manuscript summarizes the risk factors and diagnostic markers for NAFLD-HCC. With NAFLD gradually becoming the main cause of HCC, it is of great significance to clarify its risk factors and non-invasive diagnostic markers for early diagnosis and prevention of HCC. There are no major problems with the language and grammar of the article. Metabolic associated fatty liver disease (MAFLD) is a novel concept proposed in 2020, Su Lin, et al (PMID: 32478487) gave the conclusion that MAFLD definition is more practical for identifying patients with fatty liver disease with high risk of disease progression. So, can the relevant conclusions on NAFLD risk factors and diagnostic markers obtained in this paper also be extended to the evaluation and diagnosis of maflD, or are there differences?

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Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

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Reviewer's code: 02536349

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Reviewer's Country/Territory: Turkey

Author's Country/Territory: Japan

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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
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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

This review about the risk factors of NAFLD associated HCC, which is the trend of forthcoming decades. There are few points I want to share about the manuscript. • This sentence should be re-written: “NAFLD is a spectrum of chronic liver diseases characterized by excess hepatocyte fat accumulation[5].” ..maybe “excess fat accumulation in hepatocyte..” • “2382289 person-years” should be “2.382.289 person-years” • “Diabetes and other metabolic traits Several studies have demonstrated that (mostly type 2) diabetes” In first usage of Diabetes pls refer as “Diabetes mellitus”... Diabetes mellitus? Diabetes insipidus??. • “Therefore, the risk of HCC should be assessed, not only for the presence or absence of diabetes but also for fibrosis markers”risk for fibrosis marker??? • “A propensity score-matched study showed that the incidence of NASH and HCC was significantly lower in patients who underwent bariatric surgery, indicating a protective role of bariatric surgery[33].” should be “A propensity score-matched study showed that the incidence of NASH and HCC was significantly lower in patients who underwent bariatric surgery, indicating a protective role sustained weight loss by bariatric surgery[33].” according to the conclusion of Ref. 33 • “Old age, male sex, and Hispanic ethnicity are also known risk factors for NAFLD-HCC[31]” Ref.31 is a review paper which should be addressed. •

Several studies have shown that elevated liver enzymes in NAFLD patients are significantly associated with an increased risk of HCC (hazard ratio, 2.07–8.20)[41–43]” this paragraph should include recent studies which found normal transaminases does not exclude fibrosis.



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