

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 77278

**Title:** Real-World Retrospective Nationwide Cohort Study of Hepatitis B Virological Response and Improvement in Liver Stiffness Measurement in 465 Chronic Hepatitis B (CHB) Patients on Nucleos(t)ide Analogue (NA)Therapy

**Provenance and peer review:** Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 02445854

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor, Research Assistant Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Author's Country/Territory:** Canada

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-04-22

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-04-23 09:56

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-04-23 10:16

**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<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
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection



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<b>Re-review</b>	[ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	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**

In November 2021 I reviewed this manuscript that had a different number at that time (manuscript number 73367). The Authors have satisfactorily addressed the reviewer's concern. I don't have any additional comment.

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**Provenance and peer review:** Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05645050

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** Canada

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**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-04-23 08:41

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-05-01 08:21

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<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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
<b>Language quality</b>	<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
<b>Conclusion</b>	<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

<b>Re-review</b>	[ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	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

In this retrospective, multi-centre cohort study of 465 CHB patients utilizing the Canadian Hepatitis B Network cohort data, the results highlighted the effectiveness of both antiviral drugs in inducing fibrosis regression in a diverse HBV patient cohort. Although, there was some limitation in this real-world study, it really represented the large North American study conducted to date on long-term follow-up with NA therapy utilizing non-invasive fibrosis assessment method. Several points need to be revised. 1. In the part 1 of results, serum HBVDNA level and ALT levels were similar in both group showed in table 1, these parameters were very important in assessing the therapeutic effect, therefore these findings should be emphasized in words. 2. A greater proportion of persons in the TDF group had advanced fibrosis (>stage F3/4) at baseline compared to LAM due to the local standard clinical practice. These patients were more likely to be HBeAg positive. What's the relationship between advanced fibrosis and HBeAg positive ? 3. In the part 2 of the results, follow-up evaluation and outcomes need to be separated according to different parameters.