

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 76171

Title: Milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06084005

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Spain

Author's Country/Territory: Mexico

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-04

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-05 06:29

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-05 06:44

Review time: 1 Hour

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 Grade E: Do not publish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 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 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
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

In their manuscript, authors are reviewing the literature regarding milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C. The manuscript is interesting, adheres to all journal standards and covers some important aspects. This review has certain guiding significance for future research.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 76171

Title: Milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 02528485

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Taiwan

Author's Country/Territory: Mexico

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-04

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-05 03:33

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-08 08:17

Review time: 3 Days and 4 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input 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 OPINION REVIEW article has summarized the milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C virus. Several suggestions: 1. The title. [Milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C virus] is suggested. Also in the entire manuscript, [hepatitis c virus] not [hepatitis c] is suggested. 2. Line 2 in the Abstract section [Also in the core tip and final remark], the number should be more than [thousands of]? 3. Page 2, line 6, [hepatitis c virus] not [hepatitis virus] is suggested. [also in the 1st line of page 3] 4. Line 15, page 3, [RNA] but not [ARN]. 5. Page 5, please rephrase the following sentences: [Nonetheless the last portion of this story took another 39 years, 14 years from the identification of non-A non-B hepatitis to the discovery of the hepatitis C virus and 25 years from the discovery of hepatitis C virus in 1989 to the approval of one of the most prescribed direct acting anti-viral agents (DAA) Sofosbuvir in 2013 for the treatment of hepatitis C] 6. The last sentence in page 5, [blocking viral membrane fusion at the present time]. I do not know any DAA could block viral membrane fusion. Please check. 7. Line 17, page 7, [to detect protein products of those clones] is miss-leading. Actually, they use these antigens to detect the antibodies in the patients' sera. 8. Page 8, The following sentence is confusing: [Confirmatory reports from various groups worldwide all corroborated that replicons were robust in vitro replication (subgenomic HCV replication system) systems supporting complete life cycle of HCV in cell culture], if sub-genomic replicon is mentioned (ref. 28), it is not complete life cycle of HCV. 9. Abbreviation. The full-name [hepatitis C virus] appears for the first time and is followed by the abbreviation [(HCV)]. Then, HCV is used afterward. So is [World Health Organization (WHO)]. 10. Please cite the original article rather than the comments or review articles written by other authors. [Choo QL, Kuo G, Weiner AJ, Overby LR, Bradley DW, Houghton M. Isolation of a



**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

cDNA clone derived from a blood-borne non-A, non-B viral hepatitis genome. Science. 1989; 244:359-362.] for the clone 5-1-1; [Kuo G, Choo QL, Alter HJ, Gitnick GL, Redeker AG, Purcell RH, Miyamura T, Dienstag JL, Alter CE, Stevens CE, Tegtmeier GE, Bonino F, Colombo M, Lee WS, Kuo C, Berger K, Shuster JR, Overby LR, Bradley DW, Houghton M. An assay for circulating antibodies to a major etiologic virus of human non-A, non-B hepatitis. Science. 1989; 244:362-364.] for the antibody detection. 11. Line 5, page 3, Please add the WHO website after [by 2030]. 12. English editing is suggested. For example, Line 5, page 3, [. apart from laying the ground work for a new approach to study infections in general and developing new antiviral agents. Moreover, we can speculate] It is difficult for me to follow.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 76171

Title: Milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03022180

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: FAASLD, MD, PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Brazil

Author's Country/Territory: Mexico

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-04

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-05 00:13

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-13 14:05

Review time: 8 Days and 13 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous

statements

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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

was delighted to read this opinion review entitled “Milestones in the discovery of Hepatitis C.” It is well written, up-to-date and brings pleasant memories to the readers dealing with viral hepatitis in the old times. I have a few minor comments that might be considered by the authors as follows: Introduction: Session: DISCOVERY OF HEPATITIS C. INTRODUCTION The word introduction would fit better as the subtitle of this session Page 3, Line 4: Second Nobel prize: It would be interesting to point out the first one. Page 5: “mentally retarded children” could be substituted for a better term, like “children with mental disorders,” maybe... There are “track changes” comments throughout the manuscript. Please delete them. Session: ELIMINATION OF HEPATITIS C In order to update the text, the authors could include the main drawbacks that limit hepatitis C elimination nowadays, like the SARS-COV pandemic, among others. In addition, the heterogeneity among the different continents regarding testing and HCV treatment should be emphasized.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 76171

Title: Milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03261931

Position: Associate Editor

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Director, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Taiwan

Author's Country/Territory: Mexico

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-04

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-08 17:46

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-18 05:07

Review time: 9 Days and 11 Hours

Scientific quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input 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

The review is of clinical and scientific importance in the field of biomedical science and well written. Just only few comments. Major comments: 1. Please provide a figure with the timeline of landmark milestones of HCV history. 2. Please address the unmet issues that need to be resolved currently, especially the post-SVR liver complication (Huang CF, et al. Clin Mol Hepatol. 2020 Jul;26(3):251-260.) Minor comments: 3. Page 3, para 2. "entry inhibitors, protease inhibitors, polymerase inhibitors and NS5A inhibitors [3,4] the former being the most successful prodrug developed and currently used in the WHO policy for world elimination of hepatitis C". Actually, entry inhibitors are not currently available DAA in clinical practice. 4. Page 9, para 4. "That is a 90 % reduction in incidence and a 65 % reduction in mortality by 2020 and a new guidance was released in June 2021." It should be "That is a 90 % reduction in incidence and a 65 % reduction in mortality by 2030 and a new guidance was released in June 2021". 5. The English should be reviewed y native English experts.

RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 76171

Title: Milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 02528485

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Taiwan

Author's Country/Territory: Mexico

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-04

Reviewer chosen by: Jing-Jie Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-06-03 05:00

Reviewer performed review: 2022-06-22 00:29

Review time: 18 Days and 19 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 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



**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>

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This revised manuscript is recommended to be accepted.