

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 81168

**Title:** Celiac disease screening in patients with cryptogenic cirrhosis

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

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05261106

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-10-27

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-10-28 10:43

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-11-01 12:21

**Review time:** 4 Days and 1 Hour

<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 Grade E: Do not publish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</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous

statements

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

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Here are my comments regarding the letter to the editor by Schiavon entitled "Celiac disease screening in patients with cryptogenic cirrhosis": - The authors want to emphasize in this letter that patients with cirrhosis should also be tested for celiac disease. In the paper by Singh et al. they state that there is low amount of reliable evidence of testing celiac disease but say that it could be worthwhile. I believe the authors of the guidelines and this letter are in somewhat in agreement so I believe the message of the letter should be brought up better. I believe the main message is that although data is scarce as brought up by Singh et al., the result of cirrhosis can be fatal and thus all cirrhosis patients should be tested for celiac disease. If this is the message it should be brought up stronger. - It should also be brought up that many other guidelines have more firm guidance on testing all patients with unclear elevation in liver enzymes and in cirrhosis. See European guidelines by EssCd and ESPGHAN (Al-Toma et al. European Society for the Study of Coeliac Disease (ESsCD) guideline for coeliac disease and other gluten-related disorders; Husby et al. European Society Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition guidelines for diagnosing coeliac disease 2019)

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**Reviewer's code:** 06195974

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Assistant Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** United States

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-10-27

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-11-13 06:51

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-11-15 22:18

**Review time:** 2 Days and 15 Hours

<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 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</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a letter related to the article by Singh et al. and discussing the link between celiac disease and cirrhosis. The authors properly quoted studies demonstrating that celiac disease can be a cause of cryptogenic cirrhosis and the effect of gluten-free diet (GFD) treatment in cirrhosis. For the above mentioned reasons, they recommend to detect and treat celiac disease in individual with cryptogenic cirrhosis. The letter raises an important issue and is of clinical relevance. However, to further improve the the commentary, there are two adjunctive topics worth mentioning and supporting a link between celiac disease and cryptogenic cirrhosis: 1) it is well-known that celiac disease patients may not rarely present cryptogenic hypertransaminasemia as previously demonstrated (Anti tissue transglutaminase antibodies as predictors of silent coeliac disease in patients with hypertransaminasaemia of unknown origin. Dig Liver Dis. 2001 Jun-Jul;33(5):420-5), and this might explain why some celiac unrecognized celiac patients may develop cirrhosis. 2) from the pathogenetic point of view, it has been previously demonstrated that celiac disease patients may develop autoantibodies to filamentous actin (anti F-actin antibodies) that are historically associated to type 1 autoimmune hepatitis, as previously reported (Anti-actin IgA antibodies in severe coeliac disease. Clin Exp Immunol. 2004 Aug;137(2):386-92; Antibodies to filamentous actin (F-actin) in type 1 autoimmune hepatitis. J Clin Pathol. 2006 Mar;59(3):280-4). This could further support an immunological link between celiac disease and liver injury eventually leading to cirrhosis.