



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 41238

Title: Novel insights in the prevention of perinatal transmission of hepatitis B

Reviewer's code: 02530754

Reviewer's country: Spain

Science editor: Ying Dou

Date sent for review: 2018-07-30

Date reviewed: 2018-07-30

Review time: 13 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript by K. Tziomalos and cols. is an interesting editorial regarding strategies to prevent perinatal transmission of hepatitis B. The topic is of high relevance and the manuscript is informative and well written. The authors are kindly invited to consider the following comments: - The authors stated that: "Lamivudine, telbivudine and



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tenofovir also appear to be safe during pregnancy and do not increase the risk of congenital malformation, prematurity or maternal complications". Consider including FDA pregnancy category for the above referred antivirals. I am aware that this information can be read later on in the manuscript but I believe it is important to refer it earlier. Most importantly, telbivudine and tenofovir are both considered as class B and not only tenofovir. Please amend accordingly. - Immediately thereafter it can be read: "combining a nucleoside analogue with HBV immunoglobulin/HBV vaccination is more cost-effective than HBV immunoglobulin/HBV vaccination alone". In what context? Cost effectiveness studies are applicable only to the population they are derived from. Please comment. - Any recommendation regarding breast feeding? - In the conclusion the authors wrote: "However, even in high-income countries, less than half of HBsAg-positive pregnant women are identified and appropriately managed for prevention of perinatal HBV transmission". This statement is supported by a single reference based on fairly old data (more than 10 years ago; ie. 1999-2008). I am not convinced that this is the current scenario in developed countries (even in the quoted paper the situation improved over the evaluated period). I agree with the authors that continued awareness of this problem is certainly warranted but this statement should be either supported by more recent studies or rephrased to mirror the current situation. - The authors recommended that antiviral prophylaxis with tenofovir may be useful in women with high viral loads. An approximate threshold would be welcomed. In recent clinical guidelines a threshold of serum HBV DNA >200.000 IU/ml has been proposed.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 41238

Title: Novel insights in the prevention of perinatal transmission of hepatitis B

Reviewer's code: 02942798

Reviewer's country: Slovakia

Science editor: Ying Dou

Date sent for review: 2018-07-30

Date reviewed: 2018-08-04

Review time: 5 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
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			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear sir, thank you to select me to review an editorial: Tziomalos K et al. Novel insights in the prevention of perinatal transmission of hepatitis B. Topic is interesting, editorial is wel written. Only minor changes are recommended: 1) High chronic HBV infection prevalence, poor compliance with medical care and barriers to health care



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among low-income population groups, especially in immigrants and Roma population, are associated with increased perinatal hepatitis B transmission even in developed European countries (Papaevangelou V, et al. BMC Infect Dis. 2006 May 9;6:84. Drazilova, S et al. Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2018;15(5). pii: E1047. doi: 10.3390/ijerph15051047.) 2) Discuss in 2 or 3 sentences the role of caesarean section to prevent perinatal HBV transmission (Chang MS et al. Can J Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2014 Sep;28(8):439-44.) 3) Please replace category B, category C with FDA pregnancy category B, FDA pregnancy category C (page 5).

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