

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Hepatology*

Manuscript NO: 67957

Title: Genotype E: The neglected genotype of hepatitis B virus

Reviewer's code: 00012051

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: BSc

Professional title: Postdoc, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: France

Author's Country/Territory: South Africa

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Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-05-09 12:59

Reviewer performed review: 2021-05-20 15:47

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 Grade E: Do not publish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



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The paper entitled "Genotype E: The neglected genotype of hepatitis B virus" deals with a very relevant and important question in the hepatitis B field. The review is nicely demonstrating the lack of knowledge on Genotype E but also summarize the data already obtained. There are minor points that could be added, such as variability of African genotype A that was underestimated and is a fast moving field, the prevalence of deletion variants in Pre-S2 that is increasing HCC risk for genotype A (see recent papers), Concerning higher viral loads for genotype E I think this is a very difficult question, because the samples that can be classified into genotypes must all have a certain level of viral load. As in The Gambia the majority do not correspond to this criteria (<50 IU / mL), it is important to know if these inactive carriers are infected with E or A will have a huge impact on this issue. At least the question may be discussed. The paper is well written and comprehensive to a large audience on a topic of interest.