

# PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 67415

Title: Development of a risk score to guide targeted hepatitis C testing among HIV

patients in Cambodia

**Reviewer's code:** 04072104

**Position:** Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Chief Doctor, Doctor, Occupational Physician, Research Scientist

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: Belgium

Manuscript submission date: 2021-04-25

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-05-11 07:19

Reviewer performed review: 2021-05-14 08:20

**Review time:** 3 Days and 1 Hour

| Scientific quality          | [ ] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [Y] Grade C: Good<br>[ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish  |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Language quality            | [Y] Grade A: Priority publishing [] Grade B: Minor language polishing<br>[] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [] Grade D: Rejection                         |
| Conclusion                  | <ul> <li>[ ] Accept (High priority)</li> <li>[ ] Accept (General priority)</li> <li>[ Y] Minor revision</li> <li>[ ] Major revision</li> <li>[ ] Rejection</li> </ul> |
| Re-review                   | [Y]Yes []No   |
| Peer-reviewer<br>statements | Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [] Onymous<br>Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No   |



#### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It is an interesting manuscript about "Development of a risk score for hepatitis C coinfection among HIV patients in Cambodia with potential to guide prioritization of hepatitis C testing in resource-constrained settings". My concern is determined in the following points. HIV-infected patients should be screened regularly for HCV co-infection, particularly if they are in high-risk groups. Sexual transmission of HCV needs to be included in patient counseling both for HIV-infected men and women. Increased progression rates to AIDS and liver disease in co-infected individuals may require earlier and more aggressive treatment of both infections. However, following treatment initiation, patients should be monitored for AEs, with prompt intervention to support continued treatment. For most co-infected patients, HAART should be initiated before anti-HCV therapy to slow liver progression and increase CD4 counts. Above mentioned should be referred to.



# PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 67415

Title: Development of a risk score to guide targeted hepatitis C testing among HIV

patients in Cambodia

Reviewer's code: 05910422

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: India

Author's Country/Territory: Belgium

Manuscript submission date: 2021-04-25

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-05-13 06:20

Reviewer performed review: 2021-05-19 16:50

**Review time:** 6 Days and 10 Hours

| Scientific quality          | [ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good<br>[ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish   |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Language quality            | <ul> <li>[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing</li> <li>[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection</li> </ul> |
| Conclusion                  | <ul> <li>[ ] Accept (High priority) [Y] Accept (General priority)</li> <li>[ ] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection</li> </ul>                                  |
| Re-review                   | [Y]Yes []No  |
| Peer-reviewer<br>statements | Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [] Onymous<br>Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No  |



### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

overall very good manuscript.....No major changes required except that the conclusion portion could be more specific and add a note on limitations...



# PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 67415

Title: Development of a risk score to guide targeted hepatitis C testing among HIV

patients in Cambodia

Reviewer's code: 05842474

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Academic Fellow, Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Greece

Author's Country/Territory: Belgium

Manuscript submission date: 2021-04-25

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-05-12 17:10

Reviewer performed review: 2021-05-21 20:52

**Review time:** 9 Days and 3 Hours

| Scientific quality          | [Y] Grade A: Excellent [] Grade B: Very good [] Grade C: Good<br>[] Grade D: Fair [] Grade E: Do not publish                                  |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Language quality            | [Y] Grade A: Priority publishing [] Grade B: Minor language polishing<br>[] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [] Grade D: Rejection |
| Conclusion                  | <ul> <li>[ ] Accept (High priority) [Y] Accept (General priority)</li> <li>[ ] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection</li> </ul>     |
| Re-review                   | [ ] Yes [ <b>Y</b> ] No   |
| Peer-reviewer<br>statements | Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [] Onymous<br>Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No   |



### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The study by De Weggheleire et al is an excellent work. Even if the proposed score is not applicable in western countries, as also stated by the writers themselves, it may be proven extremely useful in countries with low and middle income. Additionally we should keep in mind that these specific countries, do carry the greatest burden of HIV-HCV co-infection.