

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Hepatology*

Manuscript NO: 65184

Title: Targets of immunotherapy for hepatocellular carcinoma: An update

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 00070509

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: South Korea

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2021-04-07

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-04-07 23:43

Reviewer performed review: 2021-04-12 00:19

Review time: 4 Days

Scientific quality	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
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
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous



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statements

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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors reviewed and discussed the recent status of the immunotherapy for hepatocellular carcinoma. According to the special circumstances of the tumor microenvironments, specific immunotherapeutic strategies should be considered in the liver cancer. The authors reviewed the current clinical trials of immunotherapy for HCC. This manuscript reviewed comprehensively almost all of the immunotherapy for HCC.

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Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

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Reviewer's code: 02860506

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Chief Doctor, Professor, Surgeon

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2021-04-07

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-04-08 11:23

Reviewer performed review: 2021-04-20 02:07

Review time: 11 Days and 14 Hours

Scientific quality	<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
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
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statements

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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The author has made a systematic review of immunotherapy for HCC and sorted out all the clinical trials of immunotherapy in HCC in recent years. Overall, this review has almost comprehensively reviewed all HCC immunotherapy, however, I think the present form review lacks following points. Authors should cover these in their manuscript. 1. The first part of the article elaborates on the characteristics of the tumor microenvironment of hepatocellular carcinoma, but this part is too long and lacks schematic diagrams. It is recommended that the author reduce the length or increase the schematic. 2. When introduces each immunotherapy method, the author compiled the completed and ongoing clinical studies of HCC immunotherapy in recent years. However, the author simply piled up these clinical studies, and did not comment on the results and existing problems of these studies. It is recommended to add some comments on the problems that occurred in the clinical studies of these immunotherapies, for example, (1) Why the response rate of immune checkpoint inhibitors in the treatment of HCC is not high? (2) Why the clinical research of adoptive cell therapy for HCC is progressing slowly? (3) What are the problems with CAR-T or TCR-T therapy in the treatment of HCC and other solid tumors? 3. The clinical trial NCT03434379 in Table 2 has already completed, and has reported its results (PMID: 32402160), please modify after confirmation. 4. The heading of the first column of Table 7 is immune checkpoint inhibitors, but the 9,10,11 line is about the clinical research of the HCC vaccine, please check and confirm.