

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Hepatology*

Manuscript NO: 74753

Title: Innovations in Education: A Prospective Study of Storytelling Narratives to Enhance Hepatitis C Virus Knowledge among Substance Users

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 00049727

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Chairman, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-05

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-01-06 01:09

Reviewer performed review: 2022-01-08 10:29

Review time: 2 Days and 9 Hours

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 Grade E: Do not publish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 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 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



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Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Anonymous [<input type="radio"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="radio"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors showed the usefulness of storytelling video for educating HCV infection to opioid users. This study is interesting, and the manuscript is well written. 1. The authors should indicate P values in each Figure and Table. 2. In the future, it is important to evaluate whether the differences in educational modalities will lead to behavior changes, such as frequency to screen HCV infection, visit clinics, and receive DAA treatment. The authors should add the related comments.

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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 00028182

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-05

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-01-07 12:53

Reviewer performed review: 2022-01-10 15:25

Review time: 3 Days and 2 Hours

Scientific quality	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="radio"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="radio"/> Grade C: Good <input type="radio"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="radio"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="radio"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="radio"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="radio"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="radio"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="radio"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="radio"/> Minor revision <input type="radio"/> Major revision <input type="radio"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Anonymous [<input type="radio"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="radio"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting study investigating the impact of a story-telling narrative video to increase substance users immediate and 1-month HCV-related knowledge compared to a printed format. They conducted a prospective matched, case-control study among substance users actively prescribed buprenorphine enrolled from two sites. The intervention site received the video and the control site, the brochure. Knowledge was assessed by administration of a 25-item instrument immediately before, immediately after, or one month after the intervention. Overall, they recruited a total of 176 substance users, 90 and 86 individuals, from each site, respectively. One-month follow up occurred in 92% and 94% of enrolle in the control and intervention group, respectively. In comparison with the pre-intervention scores, immediate knowledge recall significantly increased significantly for both the intervention and control groups. Multivariate modeling revealed a significant improvement in HCV-related knowledge and retention ($p=0.033$) among participants who viewed the storytelling video. They concluded that storytelling narratives emphasizing HCV education appear to be an effective method to increase HCV-related knowledge among substance users. They suggested this approach as an educational cornerstone to promote HCV management among this population. The study is of interest and present novel findings and management approach. Methods and results are well presented. I have only minor points to suggest to further improve the clinical impact of the study. - It has been previously reported that alcohol intake may contribute to the worse prognosis of HCV-patients and this should be recalled as previously described and reported (Natural course of chronic HCV and HBV infection and role of alcohol in the general population: the Dionysos Study. Am J Gastroenterol.

2008 Sep;103(9):2248-53). another clinically relevant topic to recall is the impact of a proper HCV management to avoid hepatocellular carcinoma occurrence and recurrence as previously demonstrated in a recent meta-analysis (A meta-analysis of single HCV-untreated arm of studies evaluating outcomes after curative treatments of HCV-related hepatocellular carcinoma. Liver Int. 2017 Aug;37(8):1157-1166).

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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 04737004

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Taiwan

Author's Country/Territory: United States

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Reviewer performed review: 2022-01-13 10:54

Review time: 7 Days and 8 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input checked="" 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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Talal et al. designed a prospective case-control study to assess the effect of video and brochure education on the knowledge of HCV in substance users in a total of 176 participants. The found improving scores in both groups after video and brochure education. Participants in the video education group had a milder degree of score decrease one month later, than those in the brochure group. 1. The major limitation of the study was the unusual design of the so called “prospective case-control study”. If the authors aim to assess the differences of two type of intervention on the outcomes, they just conduct the randomized study in all participants with 1:1 ratio and define the outcome assessment accordingly. Using age, sex and gender-matched to avoid potential confounders before two interventions are not enough, that means this study is prone to have selection biases to evenly distribute the potential factors affecting the knowledge of HCV, such as educational or socioeconomic status, history of HCV infection, vintage of drug uses etc... 2. It was still not clear about the sample size estimation in both groups. The authors stated a 60% differences in outcomes estimation. However, I was confused about the 60% differences (continuous variable or categorical variable improvement?). Did it mean score improvement differences or reach a specific cut-off improvement? Furthermore, it was not clear about the time point comparison for the outcomes (pre- vs. immediate post- or vs. 1-month post). Please clarify it. 3. If two groups of participants are well balanced, there is no need to use model adjustment, showing the parameter changes to confirm the authors’ assumption would be fine. To sum up, randomized controlled study would be the suitable design for such study.

RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 00028182

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-05

Reviewer chosen by: Li-Li Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-17 20:31

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-17 20:41

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	[<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Grade A: Excellent [<input type="radio"/>] Grade B: Very good [<input type="radio"/>] Grade C: Good [<input type="radio"/>] Grade D: Fair [<input type="radio"/>] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Grade A: Priority publishing [<input type="radio"/>] Grade B: Minor language polishing [<input type="radio"/>] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [<input type="radio"/>] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Accept (High priority) [<input type="radio"/>] Accept (General priority) [<input type="radio"/>] Minor revision [<input type="radio"/>] Major revision [<input type="radio"/>] Rejection
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Anonymous [<input type="radio"/>] Onymous



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statements

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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this revised manuscript the authors satisfactorily addressed the raised points and the manuscript can be now accepted.