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ESPS Peer-review Report
Name of Journal: World Journal of Hepatology
ESPS Manuscript NO: 5352
Title: IL28B polymorphisms are predictive of response to peginterferon plus ribavirin therapy in HCV Genotype 1-infected patients with persistent normal ALT
Reviewer code: 00503966
Science editor: Ma, Ya-Juan
Date sent for review: 2013-09-02 17:26
Date reviewed: 2013-09-03 23:42

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A (Excellent)	[Y] Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	[ ] Accept
[ ] Grade B (Very good)	[ ] Grade B: minor language polishing	[ ] Existed	[ ] High priority for publication
[Y] Grade C (Good)	[ ] Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	[ ] No records	[ ]Rejection
[ ] Grade D (Fair)	[ ] Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	[Y] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E (Poor)		[ ] Existed	[ ] Major revision
		[ ] No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
In patients with normal ALT-Levels and chronic HCV-infection, it is not always easy to decide whether treatment should be initiated or not. Tanaka et al. could show, that the IL28B rs8099917 TT genotype strongly correlates with treatment response in HCV genotype 1-infected Asian patients with PNALT. Thus, it can be used in cases in which prognosis of therapy outcome has an impact on therapeutic decision. We recommend publication of this paper, though it should be discussed, that dual peginterferon / ribavirin – therapy is no longer the standard therapy for chronic HCV-infection.

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ESPS Peer-review Report
Name of Journal: World Journal of Hepatology
ESPS Manuscript NO: 5352
Title: IL28B polymorphisms are predictive of response to peginterferon plus ribavirin therapy in HCV Genotype 1-infected patients with persistent normal ALT
Reviewer code: 00006683
Science editor: Ma, Ya-Juan
Date sent for review: 2013-09-02 17:26
Date reviewed: 2013-09-10 22:33

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A (Excellent)	[Y] Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	[Y] Accept
[Y] Grade B (Very good)	[ ] Grade B: minor language polishing	[ ] Existed	[ ] High priority for publication
[ ] Grade C (Good)	[ ] Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	[ ] No records	[ ]Rejection
[ ] Grade D (Fair)	[ ] Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	[ ] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E (Poor)		[ ] Existed	[ ] Major revision
		[ ] No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
I found the study by Miyamura et al. interesting and with important information regarding HCV therapy in a subset of patients that some physicians still have doubts about therapy. In that sense, the information on IL-28 profile may help to decide treatment in these Asian patients with normal ALT. I have minor comments: 1) In pag 8, para 1, lines 4-5: It should read: AST, ALT, GGT levels in the PNALT group were lower compared to those in the abnormal ALT group. 2) In the results of the abstract and in the multivariate analysis section of results, I would change the sentence by saying: SVR was independently predicted by IL28B rs8099917 major type and having EVR in HCV genotype 1-infected patients with PNALT.

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ESPS Peer-review Report
Name of Journal: World Journal of Hepatology
ESPS Manuscript NO: 5352
Title: IL28B polymorphisms are predictive of response to peginterferon plus ribavirin therapy in HCV Genotype 1-infected patients with persistent normal ALT
Reviewer code: 00006675
Science editor: Ma, Ya-Juan
Date sent for review: 2013-09-02 17:26
Date reviewed: 2013-09-19 16:17

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A (Excellent)	[ ] Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	[ ] Accept
[ ] Grade B (Very good)	[Y] Grade B: minor language polishing	[ ] Existed	[ ] High priority for publication
[ ] Grade C (Good)	[ ] Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	[ ] No records	[ ]Rejection
[Y] Grade D (Fair)	[ ] Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	[Y] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E (Poor)		[ ] Existed	[ ] Major revision
		[ ] No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
This is an interesting review with practical implications. Major comment I wonder why the study of rs12979860 was not also carried out in the patients. Minor comment The role of IL28B gene should be described in the introduction.