

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

ESPS manuscript NO: 28451

Title: Prevalence of significant liver disease in human immunodeficiency virus-infected patients exposed to Didanosine: A cross sectional study

Reviewer's code: 00506601

Reviewer's country: United States

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2016-07-03 14:57

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a small study of HIV positive individuals who were previously exposed to didanosine (DDI) to determine if this antiretroviral therapy increased the prevalence of nodular regenerative hyperplasia (NRH). The goal of this study was to develop a screen strategy using elastography, ALT with subsequent ultrasound and trans-jugular liver biopsy (TJLB) to identify NRH in these HIV positive patients. The patients recruited in this study are those that are HIV positive who had been previously exposed to DDI therapy currently being followed up at The Royal Free London hospital system. Only 99 patients were included in the study after the exclusion criteria. The authors conclude that these cases were similar to those not recruited from the database though more white and older men were in the clinic participants. The authors provide a good documentation of the demographic characteristics of this population. The study is well done but the sample size is so low that it is hard to make inferences from the population. Ultrasound was offered to only 49 patients and only 12 patients had TJLB. They present a prevalence of NRH of 2% with enormous CI 0.55-6.8%. It is certainly hard to have any confidence in that estimate based on only 12 people. I have no



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criticism of their methods but suggest that this study should be presented with caution that more data needs to be collected before this method can be determined to be an adequate clinical screening test. This study should be continued since they only found 2 cases of previously undiagnosed NRH and no cases of NCPH. A larger sample size will be needed to determine if this method will produce the results the investigators have suggested.

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

ESPS manuscript NO: 28451

Title: Prevalence of significant liver disease in human immunodeficiency virus-infected patients exposed to Didanosine: A cross sectional study

Reviewer's code: 00722252

Reviewer's country: Tunisia

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> [] High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> [] Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] No	<input type="checkbox"/> [] Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> [] Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It is an interesting study. it specifies the frequency of liver damage in particular NRH in patients infected with HIV.