



**ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 22855

**Title:** Hepatitis C virus inhibitor synergism suggests multistep interactions between HSP90 and hepatitis C virus replication

**Reviewer’s code:** 00502973

**Reviewer’s country:** China

**Science editor:** Shui Qiu

**Date sent for review:** 2015-10-01 23:18

**Date reviewed:** 2015-10-15 20:36

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input 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		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

In this manuscript, Kubota et al. reported the inhibitory effects of HSP90 inhibitor on HCV replication and release. This inhibitory effect is synergistically strengthened by addition of CysA or interferon. This study would benefit the effort to explore new targets for the treatment of HCV infection. Concerns exist and should be addressed before its acceptance. In general, the English language in this manuscript is poor and should be polished by a native English speaker. Specifically, 1. It is unusual to cite references in abstract. I would suggest not use the 2 references in the Abstract. 2. In the legend of Figure 2, it wrote “The levels of HCV RNA and core present in the JFH1-infected Huh-7 cells (open squares) and the culture medium (filled squares) were examined as described in the text.” However, I cannot find the HCV RNA data in Figure 2B and 2C. 3. Also in the legend of Figure 2, it wrote “The concentrations of 17-AAG and 17-DMAG (0-300 nM) are shown under the histograms.” However, it seems that Figure 2D showed the ratio of JFH1 core protein in medium to that in the cells. It was not the JFH1 core protein concentrations after 17-AAG and 17-DMAG treatment.



**ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 22855

**Title:** Hepatitis C virus inhibitor synergism suggests multistep interactions between HSP90 and hepatitis C virus replication

**Reviewer’s code:** 00005258

**Reviewer’s country:** Taiwan

**Science editor:** Shui Qiu

**Date sent for review:** 2015-10-01 23:18

**Date reviewed:** 2015-10-16 16:34

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> [ Y] Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" 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		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> [ ] Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

In this manuscript, the authors investigate the effect of heat-shock protein 90 (HSP90) inhibitors on the release of the hepatitis C virus (HCV) from Huh-7 cells. Both intracellular and extracellular (in medium) levels of components (RNA and core) were quantified. They found that the HSP90 inhibitors have greater inhibitory effects on the HCV RNA and core protein levels in the medium than inside cells, and that treating cells with a combination of radicicol and cyclosporin A for 24 h resulted in significant synergy that affected the release of both the viral RNA and cores. So the authors suggested that HSP90 inhibitors may interfere with an HCV replication step that occurs after the synthesis of viral RNA such as assembly and release. The results of this study were quite interesting. The data were appropriately presented and interpreted. This manuscript also was well prepared.