



ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Nephrology

ESPS manuscript NO: 18078

Title: Incidence and prevalence of hepatitis B and hepatitis C viruses in hemodialysis patients in Lebanon

Reviewer’s code: 00503260

Reviewer’s country: Japan

Science editor: Xue-Mei Gong

Date sent for review: 2015-04-07 13:44

Date reviewed: 2015-04-14 22:36

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	BPG Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors reported incidence and prevalence of hepatitis B and hepatitis C in hemodialysis patients in Lebanon. This manuscript is important to comprehend the actual state of hepatitis B and hepatitis C in hemodialysis patients in Lebanon. However, some concerns are raised. (1) The authors reported that the prevalence of anti-HCV antibodies in ESRD patients undergoing hemodialysis in Lebanon is 4.7%. However, the prevalence in the previous report ranged from 13 % to 27 %. The authors explained that the time when the previous studies were performed is different from that of this study, and that the number of the recruited hemodialysis center is also different between previous and present studies. I undrestand the possibilities that the authors pointed out. However, there is a whole wide spread. The authors should indicate other possibilities if possible. (2) In general, seroconversion is used as transformation from antigen-positivity to antibody-positivity for HBV. The authors should explain “hepatitis C seroconversion” adequately



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Name of journal: World Journal of Nephrology

ESPS manuscript NO: 18078

Title: Incidence and prevalence of hepatitis B and hepatitis C viruses in hemodialysis patients in Lebanon

Reviewer’s code: 02520300

Reviewer’s country: Serbia

Science editor: Xue-Mei Gong

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Date reviewed: 2015-06-19 05:54

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" 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"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript “Incidence and prevalence of hepatitis B and hepatitis C in hemodialysis patients in Lebanon” by Rached et al. is addressing the subject of incidence and prevalence of two important pathogens for patients undergoing hemodialysis. The reports about HBV and HCV incidence and prevalence in certain geographical region, though not entirely new, are important and welcome. There are some points to be regarded: (1) The term “seroconversion”, although being well known, should be explained in the text (2) the abbreviation MOPH was not explained anywhere in the text (3) There are too many tables present, and their number can be reduced perhaps by incorporating data about statistical analysis from tables 5 and 6 into table 4 where incidence in different regions was shown (4) Since previous studies reported higher prevalence of HCV in HD patients and they did not include as many HD centers as the present study, the results of the present study should not be interpreted exactly as significant reduction in prevalence (5) There are numerous grammatical and syntax errors throughout the text



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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Nephrology

ESPS manuscript NO: 18078

Title: Incidence and prevalence of hepatitis B and hepatitis C viruses in hemodialysis patients in Lebanon

Reviewer's code: 00503254

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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 type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" 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"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this manuscript, the authors report on the prevalence and incidence of hepatitis B and hepatitis C among hemodialysis patients in Lebanon. This paper is clinically interesting, but there are some points that need to be addressed. Major comments: They calculated the incidence as follows. Incidence (per patient-month) = (Total number of seroconversions)/(Total patient-months) Is this method correct? Seroconversion occurs in the natural course of the disease and is affected by specific treatment. They should describe the treatment of the patients, especially anti-viral agents. Minor comments: The total patient-months are different between HBV and HCV infection in Tables 2 and 3. Are the data correct?



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Name of journal: World Journal of Nephrology

ESPS manuscript NO: 18078

Title: Incidence and prevalence of hepatitis B and hepatitis C viruses in hemodialysis patients in Lebanon

Reviewer's code: 00465176

Reviewer's country: United States

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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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input checked="" 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

The study is of unclear significance and value. There have been numerous studies addressing this topic and this manuscript is best fitted for a local Lebanese journal since it is of limited interest to the global readers of the Journal. Other points "Since our sample size was large, our analysis did fulfill the requirement of a study power more than 80%." Vague: specific power calculations need to be provided. The statistical approach is suboptimal. When comparing different centers approaches such as GEE or Mixed effects model to determine variables that may account for these differences could increase the significance of the analysis while also taking into consideration missing data. The data should be presented with figures and graphics rather than just text and tables. Spell out all abbreviations e.g. HBV or HCV ESRD MOPH. Correct numerous syntax and grammatical errors throughout the manuscript e.g. " Reassessing the extent of the problem for both viruses after establishes the infection control protocols"