

March 20, 2012

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 2411-review.doc).

Title: Investigation of Genome Instability in Patients with Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis

Author: Hatice KARAMAN, Ahmet KARAMAN, Hamiyet DÖNMEZ ALTUNTAS, Nazmiye BİTGEN, Zuhale HAMURCU, Arzu OĞUZ, Çiğdem KARAKÜKCÜ

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 2411

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

REVIEWER 1

Major concerns

1. Patients and control group have no alcohol drinking habit. We added this in exclusion criteria
2. None of the patients and control group or their first degree relatives has diabetes mellitus.
3. There are no patients with HCC in our study, and there is no study in the literature about frequency of MN, NPBs and NBUDs in HCC patients.

Minor Concerns

1. We checked and corrected the spelling and punctuation error. We tried to minimize the abbreviations.

2. PHA is a well-known mitogen. There are various PHA species such as PHA-L, PHA-E and PHA-M. PHA-M is the mucoprotein form and generally used for stimulation of cell proliferation in lymphocyte culture. There are some studies that investigating genomic instability by using PHA (Some of them listed below).

[Investigation of genome instability in exfoliated colonic epithelial cells and in mitogen-stimulated lymphocytes of patients with ulcerative colitis.](#) Karaman A, Hamurcu Z, Donmez H, Bitken N, Karaman H, Baskol M, GURSOY S, Guven K, Ozbakir O, Yucesoy M. *Digestion*. 2012;85(3):228-35. doi: 10.1159/000336358. Epub 2012 Mar 29.

[Micronucleus evaluation in mitogen-stimulated lymphocytes of patients with acromegaly.](#) Hamurcu Z, Cakir I, Donmez-Altuntas H, Bitgen N, Karaca Z, Elbuken G, Bayram F. *Metabolism*. 2011 Nov;60(11):1620-6. doi: 10.1016/j.metabol.2011.03.013. Epub 2011 May 6. PMID:21550080

[Increased micronucleus frequency in phytohaemagglutinin-stimulated blood cells of patients with vitiligo.](#) Donmez-Altuntas H, Sut Z, Ferahbas A, Hamurcu Z, Demirtas H. *J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol*. 2008 Feb;22(2):162-7. doi: 10.1111/j.1468-3083.2007.02356.x. PMID:8211408

REVIEWER 2

Thank you very much. We corrected the error in the third paragraph of discussion section

3 References and typesetting were corrected

The last thing that the name of our co-author Hamiyet Dönmez should be changed as Hamiyet Dönmez Altuntas

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the World Journal of Gastroenterology.

Best regards

Dr Ahmet Karaman