

## ANSWERING REVIEWERS



March 20, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 8782 after review.doc).

My ID is 02539697.

**Title:** Correlation between Correlation between Hepatic Blood Flow and Liver Function in Alcoholic Liver Cirrhosis

**Author:** Hideaki Takahashi, Ryuta Shigefuku, Yoshihito Yoshida, Hiroki Ikeda, Kotaro Matsunaga, Nobuyuki Matsumoto, Chiaki Okuse, Shigeru Sase, Fumio Itoh and Michihiro Suzuki

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 8782

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

1. There is no explanation on the importance of this study. This should be explained more thoroughly.  
→ Thank you for your valuable remarks. We add “the **Core tip**” following the abstract and explanation from p5, line 28 to p6, line 1.
2. Authors should pay attention to the uppercase in the title.  
→ As you had pointed out, we revised.
3. There is a lack of necessary description in the results section.  
→ Thank you for your valuable remarks. We provide the relevant data and add p3, line from 15 to 18 in Abstract (total >120 words).
4. In the fifth paragraph of discussion section, I consider some description to be confusing and irrelevant.  
→ Thank you for your valuable remarks. I’m sorry there are confusing and irrelevant expression in the fifth paragraph of discussion section. We delete inappropriate sentences, and add p11, line 23 and p11, line 31.
5. References are too old, 80's and before account for 1/3 of the references.  
→ Thank you for your valuable remarks. We delete and add references.
6. There’re some grammar and spelling mistakes and the manuscript contains some unclear abbreviation (e.g. EGV, IMV, silmutaneously etc.).

→ Thank you for your pointing. We revised mistakes.

7. The purpose of the study was not illustrated clearly. The author mentioned about the relationship between liver function, liver diseases status and hepatic blood flow (HBF), but the conclusion included only the correlation between PVTBF, ICG R15 and liver function. Hence, I suggest that the authors revise the manuscript to see if there is significant close correlation between HBF, liver function and maybe furthermore liver diseases status. And it is not sufficient to use Alcoholic Liver Cirrhosis only, thus a control group is needed at least.

→ Thank you for your valuable remarks. We add explanation of aim of this study from p5, line 28 to p6, line 1.

→ Thank you for your valuable remarks. We have reported the relation between HBF and liver disease status, Child-Pugh classification in our previous study. Hence in this study we focused our discussion mainly on the relation between HBF and liver function. I ask for your kind understanding.

→ Thank you for your valuable remarks. we were invited by Editor-in-Chief of World Journal of Gastroenterology to write a review article for the special issue celebrating the 20th anniversary of World Journal of Gastroenterology, which theme is **alcoholic liver disease**: Pathogenesis, prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and evidence-based medicine. It's very thoughtful of you to allow me to write our article about alcoholic liver disease. I ask for your kind understanding.

1. It is uncertain that whether the patients with other diseases for these 35 patients with AL-LC.

→ Thank you for your valuable remarks. At least they have no severe heart, renal and respiratory disease apart from liver cirrhosis. We add the above sentence in p7, line 6.

2. In some cases the differences between groups do not look compelling. Can more detail be provided of which method that was used.

→ Thank you for your valuable remarks. We add from p8, line 26 to line 28 in 2.5 Statistical analysis.

To Administrator

"You should present P value where necessary and must provide relevant data to illustrate how it is obtained, e.g.  $6.92 \pm 3.86$  vs  $3.61 \pm 1.67$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ;"

→ Thank you for your valuable remarks.

The Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient dose not assesses whether the means

of two groups are statistically different from each other, such as t-test and Mann-Whitney *U* test. The Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient is a measure of the linear correlation between two variables. We can obtain not average but the correlation coefficient, that is "*r*". I ask for your kind understanding.

As you pointed out, We made Table 1~3 using Excel and Figure 1~7 using Power Point.

All changes and additions were described in blue letters in body text.

Thank you for your very courteous advises. If you have any further questions or concerns about this paper, we are happy to discuss about it again.

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

Sincerely yours,

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