

## ANSWERING REVIEWERS



January 9, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 15195-edited.doc).

**Title:** Association of erectile dysfunction with depression in patients with chronic viral hepatitis

**Author:** Ma Bong-oh, Shim Sang-goon, Yang Hae-jin

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 15195

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

- (1) Erectile dysfunction is a multi-factorial disease, if the others risk factors in baseline have been excluded for eliminating the effects of unmeasured baseline confounding factors or not? Otherwise the conclusion was biased.

Thank you for your suggestion. As you mentioned, numerous conditions can influence erectile dysfunction. But complete regulation of these factors is practically difficult. We had select more documented factors as exclusion criteria. We added the following sentence in the Discussion.  
" Finally, several factors that we did not exclude can act as a confounding factor and may have become a bias."

- (2) In case these patients were excluded after protocol stage, facing such high risk of non-respondent bias, a discussion and explanation of the post-protocol variables changed are required, if available, please

We appreciate the reviewer's comment. We added the following sentence in the Discussion.  
"After excluding these non-responders, we categorized the participants into ED group and non-ED group to minimize a bias."

- (3) What meanings?

We appreciate the reviewer's comment. We revised a typographical error.

- (4) How these non-balances were controlled between the two groups? by design or through statictical

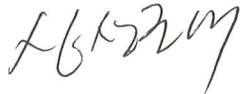
analyses? if available, please.

Thank you for your comment. In this study, We had try to control these non balances by applying logistic regression analysis.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Sang-goon'.

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