

Jan. 12, 2015

Dear Editor,

Title: Prevalence of fatty liver disease and economy in China: a systematic review



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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) *It offers no clue/insight/contribution as to the mechanisms linking affluence with fatty liver disorders. For instance: is there any evidence from literature data that increasing income is associated with specific lifestyle changes (in dietary habits or physical activity) ?*

Response: Thank you for your advice. Due to the limited data, the information concerning diet and physical activity can not contribute to the systematic review. These co-founders require further investigation, if there are enough original articles focus on the topics.

2) *Bibliographic references are mainly centered on NAFLD rather than on AFLD (Loria P Cardiovascular risk, lipidemic phenotype and steatosis. A comparative analysis of cirrhotic and non-cirrhotic liver disease due to varying etiology. Atherosclerosis. 2014;232:99-109.) Moreover, I would suggest updating them. For instance, ref 4 should be changed with: J Hepatol. 2013;59:859-71. Ref 6 should be changed with Expert Rev Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2014;8:487-500. Ref 23 with: Amedeo Lonardo, Stefano Ballestri, Giulio Marchesini, Paul Angulo, Paola Loria Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease: A precursor of the metabolic syndrome. Digest Liver Dis 2014 IN PRESS*

Response: Your review is valuable to our work. The references had been revised based on your comments.

3) *Alcoholic liver disease and NAFLD were not separated and evaluated under umbrella of FLD. this is a weak point of the study that may lead bias. if it is possible, the data for the change in prevalence of obesity and alcohol consumption at same period should be added.*

4) *In this study, alcoholic liver disease cannot be separated from non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. However, it can be overcome by comparing the trend of total alcohol consumption over time.*

Response: Thank you for your advice. The research on NAFLD and ALD is about to perform when there are enough studies focus on the prevalence individually.

5) *What is the definition of coastal and interior areas?*

Response: In this study, the provinces of the east coast are defined as the coastal area, whereas the interior includes the other provinces, i.e. the middle and west of China.

6) *In the abstract, "at a rate of 0.594% per year" should be read as "at a rate of 0.594% increase per year".*

Response: According to your advice, the word "increase" had been added.

7) *In page 7, MOOSE needs reference.*

Response: Thank you for your advise. The reference had been added.

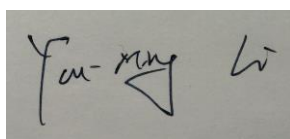
8) *Is the statement "Another study by Li et al.[25] suggested that the pooled prevalence of NAFLD in northern part of China is higher than in the southern, 18.21% and 21.87%, respectively." correct? It sounds like higher in the southern than in northern.*

Response: Sorry, it is a typo, which had been corrected.

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 on a light gray background. The signature appears to be 'You-Ming Li' written in a cursive, stylized script.

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