

ANSWERING REVIEWERS



January 05, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 14254-review.doc).

Title: A clinical study of the use of magnetic resonance elastography for assessing liver functional reserve

Author: Ming Chao, Bin Li, Jie Min, Wei-ren Liang, Guang-qiang Zhang, Jian-jun Wu, Kai Jin, Wei Huang, Cai-yu Ying

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 14254

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) How were fatty liver and iron deposition excluded?

severe fatty liver (LS increases when fatty liver progresses to inflammation), the inphase-outphase sequence showed significant fatty signal; and intrahepatic iron overload (a previous study showed that iron overload due to hemochromatosis or hemosiderosis decreases the MRI signal in liver examinations), the T2 sequence showed significant signal decrease.

(2) Were ROI's from different lobes of the liver than the tumor? Please clarify. How large and what shape were the ROI's?

On the elastography map, circular regions of interest (ROIs) were drawn from 3 slices within the liver parenchyma. The ROIs were drawn from sites more than 3 cm from the tumor tissue, avoiding the hepatic edge region and large blood vessels. The areas of the ROIs were 600-1000 mm².

(3) Tabulate control and patient MRE values with standard deviations.

We have made a table of the MRE values and ICG test results with standard deviations.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be the Chinese characters '茗超' (Ming Chao).

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