

RESPONSE FOR ANSWERING REVIEWERS

June 3rd, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 18080-revision.doc).

Title: PNPLA3 I148M variant affects NAFLD of liver transplant recipients

Author: Zhengtao Liu, Tianchi Chen, Xiaoxiao Lu, Jun Cheng, Haiyang Xie, Lin Zhou, Shusen Zheng

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 18080

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewer and editor.

Overall, the format has been updated, and details are presented as follows:

1. Please provide language a certificate letter from a professional English language editing company (Classification of the manuscript language quality evaluation is B). For manuscripts submitted by non-native speakers of English, please provide a language certificate from one of the professional English language editing companies mentioned in 'The Revision Policies of BPG for Article.'

Response: We have invited the "American Journal Experts" for language polish. The confirmation letter attached entitled "Editorial certificate from AJE". We believed that the quality of our paper can meet the requirement of *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

2. The title must be informative, specific, and brief (Title should be no more than 10~12 words/60 bytes. Please revise it). Words should be chosen carefully for retrieval purposes. All nonfunctional words should be deleted, such as 'the', 'studies on', 'observations of', and 'roles of', etc.

Response: Thanks for your meaningful suggestion; the title has been revised as "**PNPLA3 I148M variant affects NAFLD of liver transplant recipients**"

3. A short running title of less than 6 words should be provided

Response: short running title was provided as "**PNPLA3 affects NAFLD of recipients**"

4. The format of this section should be like this: Author contributions: Wang CL and Liang L contributed equally to this work; Wang CL, Liang L, Fu JF, Zou CC, Hong F and Wu XM designed research; Wang CL, Zou CC, Hong F and Wu XM performed research; Xue Jz and Lu JR contributed new reagents/analytic tools; Wang CL, Liang L and Fu JF analyzed data; and Wang CL, Liang L and Fu JF wrote the paper.

Response: We have updated the author contribution to meet the requirements of *World Journal of Gastroenterology* as follows: Zhou L and Zheng SS designed research; Liu ZT, Chen TC and Lu XX performed research; Xie HY, Zhou L and Zheng SS contributed reagents and analytic tools; Chen TC, Lu XX and Cheng J analyzed data; Liu ZT wrote the paper; and Xie HY, Zhou L and Zheng SS reviewed the paper.

5. Please write a summary of no more than 100 words to present the core content of your manuscript, highlighting the most innovative and important findings and/or arguments. The purpose of the Core Tip is to attract readers' interest for reading the full version of your article and increasing the impact of your article in your field of study.

Response: We have added a Core Tip according to your requirements. Details is presented as follows: Previous genomic studies identified PNPLA3 I148M and TM6SF2 E167K polymorphisms as most prominent genetic variations associated with non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) susceptibility in general populations. However, these impacts have never been evaluated in long-term liver transplant recipients. In a collection of survivors after liver transplantation for 10 years, we found PNPLA3 I148M but TM6SF2 E167K polymorphism affected de novo NAFLD predisposition with interaction of obesity. Our results revealed that liver transplant recipients might benefit from weight control for its limitation on deleterious effect exerted by genetic factors.

6. In order to attract readers to read your full-text article, we request that the first author make an audio file describing your final core tip. This audio file will be published online, along with your article. Please submit audio files according to the following specifications: Acceptable file formats: .mp3, .wav, or .aiff, Maximum file size: 10 MB, To achieve the best quality, when saving audio files as an mp3, use a setting of 256 kbps or higher for stereo or 128 kbps or higher for mono. Sampling rate should be either 44.1 kHz or 48 kHz. Bit rate should be either 16 or 24 bit. To avoid audible clipping noise, please make sure that audio levels do not exceed 0 dBFS.

Response: The audio core tip has been uploaded as an mp3 file (entitled “Audio Core Tip for PNPLA3 I148M variant affects NAFLD in liver transplant recipients”).

7. No less than 30. Please add PubMed citation numbers and DOI citation to the reference list and list all authors. Please revise throughout. The author should provide the first page of the paper without PMID and DOI. PMID (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=PubMed>) DOI (<http://www.crossref.org/SimpleTextQuery/>)

Response: We have revised the citation and added the DOI and PMID according to your requirement. References and typesetting were corrected.

8. In this manuscript, authors demonstrated that PNPLA3 I148M but TM6SF2 E167K polymorphism affects de novo NAFLD in Chinese recipients surviving >10 years after liver transplantation. A polymorphism in PNPLA3 that mediates triglyceride hydrolysis and is linked to pre-transplant risk of obesity and NAFLD has been reported to be linked to post transplant NAFLD risk (*World J Gastroenterol.* 2013 Dec 28;19(48):9146-55). However, the study has not been done in Chinese long term survivors after liver transplantation. This manuscript is meaningful in supporting more clinical data that PNPLA3 I148M polymorphism affects de novo NAFLD in Chinese recipients surviving >10 years after liver transplantation.

Response: Thanks for the reviewer’s comments. We treasure the positive comments raised by the reviewer. And we consider that the content of this paper can promote the current knowledge on *de novo* NAFLD after liver transplantation.

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

Sincerely yours,



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