

## Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

August 25, 2014

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 17219-review.doc).

**Title:** HBV Infection and Genotype in asymptomatic people from 10 ethnic groups in Yunnan, China

**Author:** Yuan-Ying Shen, Wei Hou, Zhan-Qiu Yang, Wen Xiao

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 17219

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) All grammatical errors founded by reviewers have been corrected as they suggested.

(2) Response to reviewer 00043980:

i. The inclusion and exclusion criteria of the selected patient population are not described.

---We revised it in 1.1 Materials. "Their ethnic background was identify with household registration. Only those with consistent ethnic records in 3 generations are included."

ii. The authors do not mention whether the various genotypes and subgenotypes of HBV are clinically relevant with regards to treatment or prognosis.

---We did described this in Page 3, line 12-13. And no reports showed genotype/subgenotype related to prognosis yet.

(3) Response to reviewer 00071717:

i. Some concerns; 1-A study by Wang B et al. found genotype C at 62.5% hepatitis B patients in Yunan. But authors found that the major genotype is B (59.6%) in Yunan. How do authors explain this diversity? Author's explanations are not satisfactory.

---We revised it in page 10, line 3-8.

ii. The study design is good but the group consists of a small sample size.

---This study was focused on asymptomatic people. Budget limitation stopped us from getting more samples. But we do think the result of this study show better pattern on HBV ethnic genotype pattern than those studies on patient samples.

(4) Response to reviewer 00182548:

---all suggestions have been revised.

(5) Response to reviewer 02441405:

i. In Introduction, following sentence is inaccurate: "One-third of the world's population, or approximately 2 billion people, are infected with HBV, and there are approximately 380 million people with chronic HBV worldwide". According to official WHO website, more than 2 000 million people alive today HAVE BEEN infected with HBV at some time in their lives, but this does not mean all of them ARE still infected. In fact, only about 350 million remain infected chronically and become carriers of the virus. Please revise this sentence to be more accurate.

---We revised it as suggested.

ii. Regarding the reliability of defining ethnicity, do people living in the "villages" have the same ethnic background? What is the extent or degree of the migration- in and -out from the

“villages”?

---We revised it in 1.1 Materials. “Their ethnic background was identify with household registration. Only those with consistent ethnic records in 3 generations are included.” Moreover, most villages we chosen is dominated by one ethnic background. There are in and out migration happened but main body of villages are stable.

ii. “The HBV genotype distribution pattern in China is dominated by genotype C in the north and B in the south, with a lower prevalence of BC (6.1%). the genotype B and C distribution were consistent with this pattern, genotype B is dominant with prevalence at 59.6%”. The observation and the conclusion seem inconsistent.

---Yunnan is in southwest China and genotype B is dominated in China. Thus, genotype B should be dominate genotype in Yunnan. We do found 59.6% prevalent of genotype B, so it is consistent with overall distribution in China.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

4 For suggestions from editors:

(1) For manuscripts submitted by non-native speakers of English, please provided language certificate by professional English language editing companies mentioned in ‘The Revision Policies of BPG for Original Articles’.

—We have provided the certification from American Journal Experts when we submitted the original manuscript. There is some different in title because we changed title a little bit to fit the policy of World Journal of Gastroenterology.

(2) Ethics approval.

—We provided a pdf file. And an Ethics Statement was include in text.

(3) Institutional animal care and use committee:

—not need for this study. Request for exemption is provided.

(4) Animal care and use statement

—not need for this study. Request for exemption is provided.

(5) Conflict-of-interest:

—pdf statement was provided.

(6) Data sharing:

—pdf statement was provided.

(7) Statistical analysis

—pdf statement was provided.

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

Sincerely yours,



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