

Dear Editor:

Thank you very much for your elegant comments and a chance to improve our manuscript.

We made changes according to your comments.

Point to point answers are listed at below:

1. The method section could benefit from a more rigorous and detailed description.

Answer: We add quality control methods in the statistical analysis section.

2. The basic clinicopathological variables of the patients in this study included only age and sex, and whether the authors considered some inflammatory indicators for inclusion in the analysis.

Answer: We add ALT data in Table 1 and 4. A statistically significant higher ALT level can be found in the HBsAg group and higher viral load group.

Hope that after these changes the manuscript may be accepted.

Looking forward to having your decision.

Best regards

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