

Peer-Reviewer Comments

Reviewer 1

Reviewer #1:

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)

Conclusion: Accept (General priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: This is a very interesting paper examining issues having to do with cirrhosis surveillance in Central Australia, but also identifying issues and challenges that are unique to the specific population and which can affect the overall management

ACTION: No specific changes made to manuscript

Reviewer 2

(1) Science editor:

Authors showed the prevalence and etiology of liver cirrhosis in Central Australian patients and discussed the risk of HCC or varices. The manuscript was well written and the conclusion was understandable. In methods section, authors should describe the way to define each liver diseases. HBc-antibody positivity was also shown.

Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

ACTION: Relevant additions made to methodology section

“Aetiology of liver cirrhosis was confirmed retrospectively based on medical records. Case-notes of patients diagnosed with Alcohol related cirrhosis were reviewed to confirm current or previous hazardous alcohol intake. For the purposes of this study, hazardous alcohol intake was defined as >14 standard units per week in line with National Health and Medical Research Council recommendations (18). Presence of hepatitis C virus (HCV) and Hepatitis B was confirmed through analysis of HCV RNA levels and hepatitis B serological tests (HBsAg, HBsAb, HbcAb, HbeAg, HbeAb), retrospectively. Non-Alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) related cirrhosis was diagnosed in patients with metabolic risk factors (obesity, type 2 diabetes, hypercholesterolemia) in the absence of hazardous alcohol intake. Autoimmune and primary biliary cirrhosis were diagnosed on the basis of serological, histological and biochemical testing”.

(2) Company editor-in-chief:

I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the

World Journal of Hepatology, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors.

ACTION: No specific changes made to manuscript