June 14, 2022

Dear Editors of the World Journal of Hepatology,

We very much appreciate your preliminary decision to accept our manuscript for publication after our revision. We have reviewed and responded to the reviewers' concerns and have edited our manuscript accordingly. Please see below a detailed point-by-point response to the reviewers.

## Point-by-point response to article reviewers

## Reviewer #1:

- Language quality: Grade B (Minor Language Polishing)
  - We have had the manuscript proofread by two separate native English speakers and have incorporated their comments about how the language can be improved into the manuscript.

## Reviewer #2:

- The state of the art of the problem dealt with should be expanded in the introduction.
  - We have expanded on the introduction to elaborate more on the current art of the problem.
- The conclusions should be improved by synthetically indicating what the scientific contribution is and proposing a set of lines of work.
  - We have added to the conclusion to indicate how this research contributes to the current literature and propose future steps.
- Language Quality: Grade C (A great deal of language polishing)
  - o Please see response to Reviewer 1's language quality classification.

We hope that these changes are acceptable. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Jamak Modaresi Esfeh
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Cleveland Clinic Foundation