

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

February 04, 2015

Dear Editor,



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

Title: THE SELECTION TOOL ALPHA-FETOPROTEIN FOR PATIENTS WAITING FOR LIVER TRANSPLANTATION: HOW TO EASILY MANAGE A FRACTAL ALGORITHM

Author: Quirino LAI, Giovanni Battista LEVI SANDRI, Jan LERUT

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Hepatology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 16188

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)

a) the AFP behavior and CHAOS theory together might not be necessary:

According to the suggestions of the reviewer, we strongly modified the initial part of the paper, shortening it and completely removing the part dedicated to chaos theory and AFP behavior. However, we do not believe it is necessary to completely remove this part of the article because we retain it useful to underline our intent to stress the mathematical complexity of AFP behaviour.

b) Content of references cited need to be further simplified, and the number of reference is relatively limited.

According to the suggestions of both the reviewers, we added two tables with the intent to simplify the complexity of the paper. We reported all the Literature strictly focused on the role of AFP in the setting of liver transplantation published in the last 10 years. Unfortunately, the relatively small number of references is related to the small number of papers effectively published in this field.

3 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer (2)

a) In section of "AFP AS PREDICTOR OF HCC RECURRENCE: THE ROLE OF STATIC VALUES" and "FROM STATIC TO DYNAMIC", authors described to list information on AFP values, AFP slope, tumor size, etc. as selection tool for HCC patients waiting for LT. We strongly recommend to make Tables in order to understand better.

According to the suggestions of both the reviewers, we added two tables with the intent to simplify complexity of the paper.

b) The paper could be accepted by minor revision: eg. 1.Title of section "AFP AS PREDICTOR OF HCC RECURRENCE: THE ROLE OF STATIC VALUES" → "AFP AS A PREDICTOR OF HCC RECURRENCE: THE ROLE OF STATIC VALUES":

We modified the title section according to the suggestions of the reviewer.

c) Section "AFP AS PREDICTOR OF HCC RECURRENCE: THE ROLE OF STATIC VALUES", paragraph 7,

"Finally some studies identified the value of 1.000 ng/mL as significant", please reconfirm the value:
We corrected the value (1000 ng/mL instead of 1.000 ng/mL).

d) united "tumor" and "tumour" in the manuscript:
We used the term tumor in all the paper.

4 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Quirino LAI, MD.
Transplant Unit, Department of Surgery
University of L'Aquila, San Salvatore Hospital
Via Vetoio 1, 67010 AQUILA, ITALY.
Tel: +39 0862368256
Fax: +39 0862368254
E-mail: lai.quirino@libero.it

Answer to chief editor:

I have added the required sentence

Sincerely

Quirino Lai, MD, PhD
General Surgery and Organ Transplantation Unit
San Salvatore Hospital
L'Aquila University
L'Aquila

Tel + 393493020126