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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 45066

Title: Serum Mac-2 binding protein glycosylation isomer level predicts hepatocellular carcinoma development in E-negative chronic hepatitis B patients

Reviewer's code: 03646639

Reviewer's country: Japan

Science editor: Ruo-Yu Ma

Date sent for review: 2018-12-17

Date reviewed: 2018-12-19

Review time: 20 Hours, 1 Day

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
[ ] Grade A: Excellent	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing	[ ] Accept (High priority)	Peer-Review:
[ ] Grade B: Very good	[Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing	[ ] Accept (General priority)	[Y] Anonymous
[Y] Grade C: Good	[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	[ ] Minor revision	[ ] Onymous
[ ] Grade D: Fair	[ ] Grade D: Rejection	[Y] Major revision	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:
[ ] Grade E: Do not publish		[ ] Rejection	[Y] Advanced
			[ ] General
			[ ] No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			[ ] Yes
			[Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors investigated the usefulness of Mac-2 Binding Protein Glycosylation Isomer for prediction of development of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) in E-negative chronic hepatitis B patients. They stated that HBeAg seroconversion and baseline M2BPGi were

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significant factors predictive of HCC. They concluded that serum M2BPGi accurately predicted HCC development in treatment-naive CHB patients during long-term follow-up after HBe seroconversion. This study seems to be interesting. However, similar studies have been carried out by Heo (2016), Kim (2017) and Cheung (2017) that cover the same ground. Therefore, I am somewhat concerned about the novelty value of the data presented here. 1) The authors show the indication of the antiviral treatment in CHB patients. 2) The authors show the therapy that patients received. 3) The should explain the reason why cirrhosis is not significant factor for HCC development, because more than 90% of cirrhotic patients developed HCC in this study. 4) The authors should clearly state the novelty of the current study. 5) It would be of great interest to analyze relationship between M2BPGi levels and lens culinaris-agglutinin-reactive fraction of AFP (AFP-L3) levels.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

[ ] The same title

[ ] Duplicate publication

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 45066

Title: Serum Mac-2 binding protein glycosylation isomer level predicts hepatocellular carcinoma development in E-negative chronic hepatitis B patients

Reviewer's code: 01799104

Reviewer's country: Taiwan

Science editor: Ruo-Yu Ma

Date sent for review: 2018-12-17

Date reviewed: 2018-12-29

Review time: 18 Hours, 11 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
[ ] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [Y] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [Y] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript: [ ] Advanced [Y] General [ ] No expertise Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors include a specific group of patients with spontaneous e seroconversion. I think baseline M2BPGi is the most important. In table 3, comparing the level of M2BPGi is meaningless because you treated the most HCC patients with antiviral agent. It may

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have same implication in Fig 2 perhaps you also had treatment for those with cirrhosis when you found they had activity of hepatitis, of which elevated M2BPGi is expected.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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[Y] No

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[Y] No