

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

August 31, 2012

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 4929-reviewRR.doc).

Title: New compounds able to control hepatic cholesterol metabolism: is it possible to avoid statin treatment in aged people?

Author: Laura Trapani, Marco Segatto, Valentina Pallottini

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Hepatology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 4929

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, the changes performed according Reviewers' suggestion have been underlined in yellow along the manuscript.

First of all we want to thank the reviewers for the helpful suggestions that improve the manuscript.

Reviewer1: *I am pleased to inform you that your review manuscript 'New compounds able to control hepatic cholesterol metabolism: is it possible to avoid statin treatment in aged people?' has been accepted for publication in World Journal of Hepatology. This MS is well-organized and stated clearly. It may open fresh avenue for the advanced therapeutic strategies. Thank you very much.*

Reviewer 2: *The review manuscript "New compounds able to control hepatic cholesterol metabolism: is it possible to avoid statin treatment in aged people?" is quite informative, targeting the potential cholesterol-lowering compounds available, the authors describe and evaluate both the promising application and side effect. Conclusions of clinical trials as well as experimental data are analyzed in the manuscript, providing a very inclusive update of this area. The work can be more remarkable if a table is provided to compare the difference of compounds in treating hypercholesterolemia in aged people or animals, or a model is drawn to show the variable mechanisms. The information from literature maybe limited, but if include any studies that compare other compounds with statin would be better.*

Authors: **Authors added a Table underlying the percentage of the studies performed on elderly, drugs and hypercholesterolemia that is the topic of the presented minireview**

Reviewer 3: *It is a well-written paper, however authors should improve its content according to the following comments:*

- 1) *Since they refer many categories of antihypolipidaemic agents they should create an appropriate table for each category in which they will add all the necessary informations/data. It will be great if they create tables separately for experimental and clinical data in order the text to be more concise and comprehensible.*

Authors: We added a table underlying the percentage of the studies performed on elderly, drugs and hypercholesterolemia that is the topic of the presented minireview.

- 2) *There is a lack with regard the categories of antihypolipidaemic agents, since there is no mention regarding sterols and stanols and synthetic PPAR- γ agonists.*

Authors: We did not mention sterols and stanols and synthetic PPAR- γ agonists as this is a minireview. Otherwise, our manuscript would have been too large.

- 3) *Also there is no mention to substances as orlistat which act to obesity and subsequently can improve plasma lipids concentrations and fatty liver.*

Authors: Done.

- 4) *The role of folic acid as an antioxidant and antiatherosclerotic agent should also be referred.*

Authors: Done.

- 5) *Regarding the fibrates and their mechanism of action as hypolipidemic drugs, there is mention only for the triglyceride, so authors should add their effect on total cholesterol and LDL-cholesterol levels.*

Authors: Done.

- 6) *It would be interesting and helpful to provide the most updated data to the readers, if authors could mention the debated role of vit. D to the hypolipidemic parameters as well as the role of nutraceuticals (monakolines, berberine and gargle extracts).*

Authors: We added the role of of nutraceuticals (monakolines, berberine and gargle extracts).

- 7) *Furthermore, authors should refer the role of human polymorphisms on drugs action-especially of statins- since it is well-known that the type of polymorphism could determine the effect of drugs on lipid parameters, especially on LDL-Cholesterol plasma levels.*

Authors: Done.

- 8) *Also, authors should mention in detail all the mechanisms in which statins act on lipids levels, such as the inhibition of ion countertransports (Na-Li countertransport activity, etc).*

Authors: Done.

- 9) *Finally, some additional epidemiological data should be mentioned, since dyslipidemia affects, not only in the coronary vessels, but also in carotides and the brain vessels!*

Authors: Done.

*For all my comments, authors should read and use the appropriate data from the following suggesting papers
ing these comments on my article.*

**Authors: We thank the reviewer for all the suggestions and the helpful literature he
recommended to cite.**

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,



Assistant Professor
Lab. Animal and Cellular Physiology
Department of Science
Section Biomedical Science and Technologies
University Roma Tre
Viale Marconi, 446
00146 Roma
Tel 06.57336320-44
Fax. 06.57336321