

We thank the reviewers for their comments. Below you can find our responses to each of the reviewers' comments.

Reviewer 00504918 comments: This report is limited by the low number of patients and the low number of patients that had liver fibrosis >2. Nonetheless, the work is sound, the manuscript clear and concise and the data important to have published. Maybe include some of the pertinent correlations seen in the actual text by referring to the p values themselves.

R: We agree with the reviewer about the relatively reduced number of patients with fibrosis, mainly due to the exclusion of patients who drink alcohol, a very prevalent habit in patients who injected drugs (who represented most cases of fibrosis in our series because of HCV coinfection). However, the sample size was large enough to detect a number of statistically significant results, both in the univariate and multivariate analyses.

Regarding the comment on the p values, we have incorporated into the main text the most relevant p values corresponding to the correlations described in Tables 4 and 5, as suggested by the reviewer (5th and 6th paragraphs of Results).

Reviewer 03293126 comments: The results presented in this reviewed manuscript are of scientific merit and interest, though the manuscript needs to be revised throughout in order to be presented in a more scientific and clear way and language.

R: The comment on the revision of the manuscript is general and imprecise. Therefore, we do not know which particular aspects the reviewer is referring to.

On the other hand, this reviewer has considered that the language evaluation is Grade A. In addition, the previous reviewer has defined the manuscript as "*clear and concise*" and also classified the language as Grade A. Therefore, we are not sure about the specific changes that should be made to address the reviewer's comment.

However, we have sent the manuscript to a native speaker of English (Prof. Joshua Fierer, Division of Infectious Diseases, Veterans Affairs San Diego Healthcare System and University of California, San Diego School of Medicine, USA), who has thoroughly revised and edited the manuscript for readability and correctness of its English.

Reviewer 00504077 comments: 1. Nice review 2. I believe it would be helpful for the readers of your article if you included therapy for NAFLD and NASH.

R: It is important to remember that our manuscript was an original article (observational study), not a review and, therefore, the discussion should center on the subject under study.

The aim of our study was to analyze the value of diverse SNPs, MMPs and TIMPs as predictors of liver fibrosis in HIV infection. Therefore, no aspect related to therapy was considered or analyzed.

Consequently, we believe that any comment related to therapy would be beyond the aim of the study and would not be based on our findings.