



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Oncology*

Manuscript NO: 107723

Title: Lifestyle Factors in Hepatocellular Carcinoma: From Pathogenesis to Prognosis

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 07553137

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree and professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2025-03-28

Reviewer chosen by: Shang Wu

Reviewer accepted review: 2025-04-07 01:45

Reviewer performed review: 2025-04-07 01:49

Review time: 1 Hour

Content to be reviewed	<p>Does the manuscript's content fall within the scope of the journal? Yes</p> <p>Is there any Key Word that is not included in the manuscript title? No</p> <p>Do authors' affiliations correspond to the content of the manuscript? Yes</p> <p>Does the Abstract contain the contents of each part of the manuscript (IMRaD)? Yes</p> <p>Are the Key Words complete? Yes</p> <p>Is the content of the Introduction adequate? Yes</p>
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	<p>Is the content of the Materials and Methods complete? Yes</p> <p>Is the description of the experiments clear and complete? Yes</p> <p>Are the experimental data presented in the manuscript's biostatistics content reliable? Yes</p> <p>Are the experimental data of the Results true and reliable? Yes</p> <p>Are the quality and resolution of the images up to standard? Yes</p> <p>Do the selection and design of the figures and tables follow the principles of necessity and clarity? Yes</p> <p>Is there any duplication between various parts of the manuscript and between the main text and the content presented in the figures and tables? No</p> <p>Are the figures and tables numbered consecutively in the order in which they appear in the manuscript? Yes</p> <p>Is the content of the Discussion reasonable? Yes</p> <p>Is the Conclusion reasonable? Yes</p> <p>Are all references necessary and reasonable? Yes</p> <p>Do authors omit important references? No</p> <p>Are all references related to the topic of the manuscript? Yes</p> <p>Do authors only cite their own earlier publications? No</p> <p>Is the manuscript's text correct, concise, and clear? Yes</p> <p>Will the manuscript's content be of interest to readers? Yes</p> <p>Are additional experiments needed for the study? No</p> <p>Does the research scope comply with ethics? Yes</p>
<p>Scientific quality</p>	<p>Grade B (Very good)</p>



Novelty of this manuscript	Grade B (Very Good)
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	Grade B (Very Good)
Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	Grade B (Very Good)
Language quality	Grade B (Very good)
Does this manuscript describe a study of the existing knowledge system?	Yes
Does this manuscript report a revolutionary innovation?	No
Does this manuscript report an unconventional innovation?	No
Conclusion	Minor revision
Re-review	No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: Anonymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This review article addresses a highly relevant and significant topic –lifestyle factors and their influence on the pathogenesis and prognosis of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). The manuscript is comprehensive, with a clear structure that effectively covers various lifestyle elements such as diet, alcohol consumption, tobacco use, physical activity, and emerging factors like psychological stress and sleep patterns. The evidence presented is robust, and the synthesis of existing studies provides valuable insights into the relationship between lifestyle choices and HCC risk and outcomes. However, there are several areas that could benefit from minor revisions to enhance clarity, consistency, and impact. Strengths: Relevance and Depth: The topic of lifestyle factors and their connection to HCC is critical given the global burden of liver cancer. The review



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captures a wide array of relevant lifestyle factors and their biological mechanisms, making it a valuable contribution to the field. **Comprehensive Literature Review:** The manuscript offers an extensive review of various dietary and behavioral factors, synthesizing a wealth of evidence from prospective cohort studies, case-control studies, and meta-analyses. This thorough approach is one of the manuscript's key strengths. **Clinical Relevance:** The potential clinical applications of the findings are well-highlighted, particularly the recommendations for lifestyle interventions aimed at reducing HCC risk and improving patient outcomes. The focus on practical strategies for personalized prevention is particularly valuable. **Clear Organization:** The manuscript is well-organized, with clear headings that guide the reader through the different lifestyle factors and their relationships with HCC. **Areas for Improvement: Clarity in Some Sections:** While the manuscript is generally well-written, some sections could benefit from clearer explanations. For example, the discussion on the molecular mechanisms underlying the effects of dietary factors (such as aflatoxins or polyunsaturated fatty acids) could be more concise and structured to avoid potential confusion. Consider summarizing the mechanisms in bullet points or tables for easier comprehension. **Addressing Heterogeneity in Studies:** The manuscript frequently references studies with large sample sizes but does not delve into the potential heterogeneity in study populations or study design that could influence the results. More discussion is needed on the challenges of comparing studies with different geographic populations, dietary habits, and diagnostic methods. This would enhance the critical appraisal of the evidence presented. **Inclusion of Additional Lifestyle Factors:** While the manuscript covers a broad range of lifestyle factors, there could be a brief mention of other emerging factors influencing liver cancer, such as environmental toxins, exposure to pollutants, and their cumulative impact with lifestyle habits. These factors are becoming increasingly important in public health discussions and could enrich the manuscript.



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More Discussion on Treatment Implications: While the manuscript discusses lifestyle modifications as a preventive measure, the implications of these factors on treatment outcomes (including those undergoing surgery, chemotherapy, or immunotherapy) could be expanded. How might lifestyle interventions improve the efficacy of current treatments or reduce treatment-related side effects? Conclusion and Future Directions: The conclusion could be strengthened by including a call for future research directions. Specifically, there could be more emphasis on the need for randomized controlled trials to confirm the causal relationships between lifestyle factors and HCC. Additionally, exploring the role of socioeconomic factors in lifestyle choices and HCC risk could be an important area for future studies. Minor Edits: There are a few minor grammatical and typographical errors throughout the manuscript that should be addressed. The references to tables and figures could be better integrated into the text, ensuring that the reader can easily navigate between them. Conclusion: This manuscript provides a thorough and informative review of the role of lifestyle factors in the pathogenesis and prognosis of hepatocellular carcinoma. It makes a valuable contribution to the field and provides actionable insights for both prevention and management strategies. With minor revisions, particularly in the areas of clarity and critical appraisal of the evidence, the manuscript will be an excellent resource for clinicians and researchers working in this area.



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Reviewer's code: 05420928

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree and professional title: Associate Professor, PhD

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2025-03-28

Reviewer chosen by: Shang Wu

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Reviewer performed review: 2025-04-09 03:46

Review time: 1 Day and 13 Hours

Content to be reviewed	Does the manuscript's content fall within the scope of the journal? Yes Is there any Key Word that is not included in the manuscript title? No Do authors' affiliations correspond to the content of the manuscript? Yes Does the Abstract contain the contents of each part of the manuscript (IMRaD)? Yes Are the Key Words complete? Yes Is the content of the Introduction adequate? No
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Is the content of the Materials and Methods complete?

No

Is the description of the experiments clear and complete? **Yes**

Are the experimental data presented in the manuscript's biostatistics content reliable? **Not Applicable**

Are the experimental data of the Results true and reliable? **Not Applicable**

Are the quality and resolution of the images up to standard? **Not Applicable**

Are the figures and tables numbered consecutively in the order in which they appear in the manuscript? **Yes**

Is the content of the Discussion reasonable? **No**

Is the Conclusion reasonable? **Yes**

Are all references necessary and reasonable? **Yes**

Do authors omit important references? **No**

Are all references related to the topic of the manuscript? **Yes**

Do authors only cite their own earlier publications? **No**

Is the manuscript's text correct, concise, and clear? **No**

Will the manuscript's content be of interest to readers?
No

Are additional experiments needed for the study? **No**

Does the research scope comply with ethics? **Yes**

Do the selection and design of the figures and tables follow the principles of necessity and clarity? **Yes**

Is there any duplication between various parts of the manuscript and between the main text and the content presented in the figures and tables? **No**



Scientific quality	Grade D (Fair)
Novelty of this manuscript	Grade D (Fair)
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	Grade D (Fair)
Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	Grade B (Very Good)
Language quality	Grade B (Very good)
Does this manuscript describe a study of the existing knowledge system?	Yes
Does this manuscript report a revolutionary innovation?	No
Does this manuscript report an unconventional innovation?	No
Conclusion	Rejection
Re-review	Yes
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: Anonymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this review, authors have focused on lifestyle factors and its effect on hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) pathogenesis and clinical outcomes. Authors have systematically evaluated dietary components, alcohol consumption patterns, tobacco use, physical activity levels, metabolic disorders, psychological stress, sleep disturbances and so on. The topic of this study is interesting, however, some lifestyle factors such as dietary components, alcohol consumption patterns, tobacco use, that's commonly known to the pathogenesis and clinical outcomes in HCC, thus, I suggest that it's not new in this review. Besides, there are several comments and suggestions for improving this review



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as following. 1. In the introduction part, authors have claimed that “major risk factors include chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV) and hepatitis C virus (HCV) infections, alcoholic liver disease, non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH), and aflatoxin exposure. Although targeted therapies (e.g., Sorafenib, Lenvatinib) and immune checkpoint inhibitors (e.g., Atezolizumab combined with Bevacizumab) have improved outcomes for some patients, overall therapeutic efficacy remains limited, with no significant breakthrough in 5-year survival rates [4]”. I suggest that it’s not have a close relationship with lifestyles. 2. For the part of dietary components, there are big different between east and west, however, authors have not taken it into consideration, it’s a significant limitation in this review. I suggest that authors should compare different lifestyles between east and west. 3. For the part for “TOBACCO USE AND HCC”, there are little new findings in this review, I suggest that authors should make it shorten. 4. For the part for “EMERGING RESEARCH FRONTIERS”, I suggest that there is not close relationship with the topic for this review- “Lifestyle Factors in Hepatocellular Carcinoma: From Pathogenesis to Prognosis”. 5. From Pathogenesis to Prognosis, I think it’s one of the most important points in this review, I suggest that authors should make figure(s) to show how lifestyles “from pathogenesis to prognosis” in HCC, it would be better to make readers understand.



RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Oncology*

Manuscript NO: 107723

Title: Lifestyle Factors in Hepatocellular Carcinoma: From Pathogenesis to Prognosis

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

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Reviewer's code: 05420928

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Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2025-03-28

Reviewer chosen by: Shang Wu

Reviewer accepted review: 2025-05-13 10:27

Reviewer performed review: 2025-05-13 13:07

Review time: 2 Hours

Content to be reviewed	Does the manuscript's content fall within the scope of the journal? Yes Is there any Key Word that is not included in the manuscript title? No Do authors' affiliations correspond to the content of the manuscript? Yes Does the Abstract contain the contents of each part of the manuscript (IMRaD)? Yes Are the Key Words complete? Yes Is the content of the Introduction adequate? Yes
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Is the content of the Materials and Methods complete?

Not Applicable

Is the description of the experiments clear and complete? **Yes**

Are the experimental data presented in the manuscript's biostatistics content reliable? **Yes**

Are the experimental data of the Results true and reliable? **Yes**

Are the quality and resolution of the images up to standard? **Yes**

Do the selection and design of the figures and tables follow the principles of necessity and clarity? **Yes**

Is there any duplication between various parts of the manuscript and between the main text and the content presented in the figures and tables? **No**

Are the figures and tables numbered consecutively in the order in which they appear in the manuscript? **Yes**

Is the content of the Discussion reasonable? **Yes**

Is the Conclusion reasonable? **Yes**

Are all references necessary and reasonable? **Yes**

Do authors omit important references? **Yes**

Are all references related to the topic of the manuscript? **Yes**

Do authors only cite their own earlier publications? **No**

Is the manuscript's text correct, concise, and clear? **Yes**

Will the manuscript's content be of interest to readers?
Yes

Are additional experiments needed for the study? **No**

Does the research scope comply with ethics? **Not
Applicable**



Scientific quality	Grade B (Very good)
Novelty of this manuscript	Grade B (Very Good)
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	Grade B (Very Good)
Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	Grade B (Very Good)
Language quality	Grade C (Good)
Does this manuscript describe a study of the existing knowledge system?	Yes
Does this manuscript report a revolutionary innovation?	No
Does this manuscript report an unconventional innovation?	No
Conclusion	Accept
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In the revision manuscript, authors have revised and edited their manuscript according to the editors' comments and suggestions, and now, I think that it's ready for publication.