

Response to Reviewers

We appreciate the careful review of our manuscript. We have modified our manuscript to address the reviewers' questions as described below.

Reviewer 00054120:

Thank you for submitting your article to the World Journal of Hepatology. It is an interesting study, as you mentioned not been performed before. However, as you may know the social and family support for transplant candidates are of paramount importance to make a patient eligible for the procedure. In most of the transplant centers including ours, this factor is taken into serious consideration. Although, your study design is focused on the rejected candidates, there are few issues that need to be addressed; 1- What was/were the primary reasons for rejection in this group? 2- At your center do you consider the presence of strong support system as a factor in accepting the candidates? 3- What is the percentage of patients who were accepted as OLT candidates during the same period of the study, and they have or they have not family support or their presence during the evaluation or follow up? This is important to give us an idea about the importance of this factor at your center.

Reply:

Thank you for the review.

- 1) Yes, we agree it is important to identify the reasons for transplant rejection. This is described in the second and third paragraphs of the results section. Most patients were declined because of active alcohol use, lack of social support, and active substance abuse.***
- 2) A strong support system is required for transplant listing at our institution. We have added this important clarification.***
- 3) The percentage of patients accepted as liver transplant candidates at our institution during the study period was 30% and adequate social support was required for all these patients.***

Reviewer 02584466:

This is a well presented piece of research on a clinical topic, factors that affect listing for liver transplantation of patients who were denied initially this listing, that is of great importance. I have no suggestions for change in the report. My only concern is that the number of participants is small for such a study and the probability of both type 1 and type 2 statistical errors is significant. The authors have addressed this issue in the Discussion.

Reply:

Thank you for the review.