



**ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 20990

**Title:** Factors associated with the response to interferon-based antiviral therapies for chronic hepatitis C

**Reviewer’s code:** 03020350

**Reviewer’s country:** China

**Science editor:** Xue-Mei Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2015-06-30 08:50

**Date reviewed:** 2015-07-06 07:14

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The authors discussed in this manuscript the viral and host factors associated with the response to pegylated and non-pegylated IFN- $\alpha$ -based therapies for chronic hepatitis C. Generally the paper is of interest and well-written with a few amendments necessary. 1. In the “Conclusions” part, in the first sentence “Because of its antitumor effects, IFN treatment is still important I HCV-infected patients, particularly in daysnese patients who are at a high risk of developing HCC”. What is the meaning of the word “daysnese” or if it is a mistake in word’s spelling? 2. In the “References” part, the format of all references should be the same. But there are some references with different formats. For example, no. 7, 21, 22 etc. 3. It may be more perfect if the authors can provide some clinical information regarding IFN- $\alpha$  treatment of chronic hepatitis C from other countries (such as USA, China and European country etc.) except Japanese documents. Because World Journal of Gastroenterology is an international journal.



**ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 20990

**Title:** Factors associated with the response to interferon-based antiviral therapies for chronic hepatitis C

**Reviewer’s code:** 02922531

**Reviewer’s country:** China

**Science editor:** Xue-Mei Gong

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This article is a comprehensive and elaborate review of factors associated with the response to interferon-based therapies for chronic hepatitis C. Additionally, some recent findings regarding the role of anti-IFN- $\alpha$  neutralizing antibodies in the impact of IFN- $\alpha$  based therapy will also be described. This article is suitable for World Journal of Hepatology. I think some minor revision will improve the quality of this article. Considered the content of this manuscript, I suggested that the title should be adjusted as “antivirus therapies” more than “interferon-based therapies”. In the abstract, too many words is the background or introduction of HCV and IFN. The structure should coincide with the manuscript. What are the main virus factor and the main host factor? What is the main conclusion of your present study? In the end of “Viral factors associated with the response of HCV infection to IFN treatment” and “Host factors associated with the response to IFN treatment for HCV infection”, a more detailed description of “the amino acid sequences in the core region and NS5A region” and “genotype of SNP” seems to make the article more deeper. I think that a new part is better than present structure or the part of your study. “We studied a total of 129 patients who had received



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Peg-IFN- $\alpha$  plus RBV treatment..... In the part of conclusion, the stucture should be rearranged. To clarify the virus factors, the host factors, mutations of HCV resulting in resistance to DAAs, the role of anti-IFN- $\alpha$  neutralizing antibodies, and your new results.

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 20990

**Title:** Factors associated with the response to interferon-based antiviral therapies for chronic hepatitis C

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<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
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		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a review about interferon treatment for chronic HCV infection. The content is quite complete and updated. However, for the role of anti-IFN- $\alpha$  neutralizing antibodies after IFN- $\alpha$  treatment, the authors have written a long paragraph to suggest that anti-IFN- $\alpha$  neutralizing antibodies may play a role in drug resistance to IFN- $\alpha$  treatment. This opinion appeared not well accepted so far. In the Table 2, the authors just list how many patients with the anti-IFN- $\alpha$  neutralizing antibodies were non-responsive to IFN- $\alpha$  treatment, or the % of non-responsive patients having this antibody. They did not show how many patients responsive to IFN- $\alpha$  treatment having the anti-IFN- $\alpha$  neutralizing antibody and the p value was significant or not. Since this is a review article, not a research original article, the authors should also mention the negative opinion about the role of anti-IFN- $\alpha$  neutralizing antibodies related to drug resistance to IFN- $\alpha$  treatment. They need to be more neutral in delivering the scientific comments and avoid personal bias.