



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery

**Manuscript NO:** 64238

**Title:** Immunotherapy after liver transplantation: Where are we now?

**Reviewer's code:** 05758726

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Japan

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-02-14

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-02-14 23:44

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-02-15 11:28

**Review time:** 11 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

1. The authors made a PMC search to find recent trend of patients with prior liver transplantation and subsequent immunotherapy. They conclude rejection risk is the major obstacle to immunotherapy use. 2. The level of description is very good with some exceptions (below). 3-1. The study include 9 patients with melanoma, therefore the title "Immunotherapy for Post-Liver Transplant Hepatocellular Carcinoma Recurrence: Where are we now?" is innapropriate. 3-2. The authors should include the key words in PubMed Search so that the reader can reconfirm. 3-3. Facing the immune-related adverse event, we often continue IO-drug with corticosteroids. That is, immunosuppression and immunostimulation are performed at the same time. It will be helpful to the reader to describe the mechanism at that time. 3-4. Despite the description of research limitations, the authors addressed figures of a comparison of two groups with different backgrounds (Pembro.'s PFS and OS are significantly better than Nibo.). It may be misleading to the reader, so it is better to delete the figures and keep it as a reference in the text, or to make a comparison using propensity score matching.



### PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery

**Manuscript NO:** 64238

**Title:** Immunotherapy after liver transplantation: Where are we now?

**Reviewer's code:** 03501077

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

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**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-02-14 14:31

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-02-25 16:41

**Review time:** 11 Days and 2 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The paper is well written and the theme is clinically relevant. Statistical analyses have been well conducted. My most significant concern is the very low homogeneity of patient population, being several studies evaluated together. I think Authors should clarify inclusion and exclusion criteria of the considered studies.