

To the Editor

World Journal of Gastroenterology

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We are pleased that the editorial team and reviewers found merits in our study and have given us the opportunity to respond to their concerns and to revise the manuscript. We have attempted to deal with all the issues/questions raised by the reviewers, and we hope that the revised manuscript is now suitable for publication in World Journal of Gastroenterology.

*Reviewer #1: Dear Author My comment as below: I believe that this study will be evaluated by a biostatistics expert. Statistical analysis methods to be used in dependent groups and analysis methods to be used in independent groups are completely different from each other. First of all, it should be stated whether continuous variables used in this study show normal distribution. When the tables are examined, it is understood that some parameters do not show normal distribution. Paired t test is used to compare two dependent groups showing normal distribution. In other words, unpaired t test is not used for this purpose. Wilcoxon signed-rank test is used to compare two dependent groups that do not show normal distribution. Likewise, McNemar test is used to compare nonparametric dependent groups and Chi-Square should be used to compare parameteric dependent groups. Which version of SPSS program is used should be written. It should be indicated whether the SPSS version used is licensed. Abbreviations must be used with the full name before they are used for the first time. Most of the data in Table-1 has nothing to do with the primary purpose of this study. Therefore, in my opinion, Table-1 should be deleted.*

**Response to Reviewer 1.** We thank the reviewer for the revision. An expert biostatistician re-analyze the results of the study according to the reviewer's suggestion finding the same results in terms of statistical significance. The statistical methods used are now well clarified also in the methods section. A licensed SPSS version 16.0 was used. Finally, according to the reviewer suggestions, the abbreviations are now explained in the text when used for the first time and Table 1 was deleted and the clinical data are now described only in the text.

*Reviewer #2: Thanks for inviting me to review the paper entitled "HCV ERADICATION WITH DIRECTLY ACTING ANTIVIRALS IMPROVES HEALTH-RELATED QUALITY OF LIFE AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SYMPTOMS" 1. 1. TITLE It reflect the major contents of the article, and is comparable to the aim of the work. 2. ABSTRACT it gives clear idea of the research background, aim and conclusions are clearly identified. However, using "HRQoL" is incorrect and should not be abbreviated, and the first letter should be capitalized. It has to be corrected. 3.Key words: Direct Acting Antivirals must replaced Directly Active Antivirals.4. INTRODUCTION Provides sufficient background regarding the studied topic and the aim is clearly emphasized. 5. Patients*

*and Method: The sample size is relatively small, and Why all patients Use Ledipasvir/Sofosbuvir.6.Results and Discussion is well wirtten.*

**Response to Reviewer 2.** We thank the reviewer. This is an observational study that enrolled all consecutive patients submitted to antiviral therapy during a one-year period (from January 2018 to January 2019). The suggested corrections have been added to the manuscript (Health-related quality of life is now explained in the abstract, as well as Direct Acting Antivirals is now replaced Directly Active Antivirals).

*Reviewer #3: Thanks for this very informative manuscript, but i have some comments that need some revisions: 1-"DSM IV" abbreviation in the introduction is not written please write the meaning of it when written for first time 2-duration of HCv ttt with DAAs is it 12 or 24 months as well the patient population ( naive or experienced???) please verify 3-in the results you mentioned "The comparison between HRQoL domains of controls and patients before and after treatment with DAAs" is it observational study as mentioned in the title or case control study? if case control you didn't mention any details on control arm (number, matched in age and sex , healthy volunteers???) please specify.*

**Response to Reviewer 3.** We thank the reviewer for the suggestion. 1: the abbreviation DSM IV is now explained in the text. 2: the duration of antiviral therapy is 3 months. This information is now given in the "Patients and Method" section of the manuscript. 3. Only 14 patients were naive, the remaining twenty five patients were previously submitted to IFN-based regimens, as added in the "Results" section of the manuscript. 4: The study is observational, not case control. The quality of life was evaluated using a free, downloadable software which allows each patient to be compared with one healthy Italian man or woman. With this software we obtain control values of healthy Italian population matched for age, gender, degree of education, job and marital status.