Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 76171

Title: Milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer’s code: 06084005

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: Spain

Author’s Country/Territory: Mexico

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-04

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-05 06:29

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-05 06:44

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality

- Grade A: Excellent
- Grade B: Very good
- Grade C: Good
- Grade D: Fair
- Grade E: Do not publish

Language quality

- Grade A: Priority publishing
- Grade B: Minor language polishing
- Grade C: A great deal of language polishing
- Grade D: Rejection

Conclusion

- Accept (High priority)
- Accept (General priority)
- Minor revision
- Major revision
- Rejection

Re-review

- Yes
- No

Peer-reviewer

- Peer-Review: Anonymous
SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
In their manuscript, authors are reviewing the literature regarding milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C. The manuscript is interesting, adheres to all journal standards and covers some important aspects. This review has certain guiding significance for future research.
Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 76171

Title: Milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer’s code: 02528485

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: Taiwan

Author’s Country/Territory: Mexico

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-04

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-05 03:33

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-08 08:17

Review time: 3 Days and 4 Hours

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This OPINION REVIEW article has summarized the milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C virus. Several suggestions: 1. The title. [Milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C virus] is suggested. Also in the entire manuscript, [hepatitis c virus] not [hepatitis c] is suggested. 2. Line 2 in the Abstract section [Also in the core tip and final remark], the number should be more than [thousands of]? 3. Page 2, line 6, [hepatitis c virus] not [hepatitis virus] is suggested. [also in the 1st line of page 3] 4. Line 15, page 3, [RNA] but not [ARN]. 5. Page 5, please rephrase the following sentences: [Nonetheless the last portion of this story took another 39 years, 14 years from the identification of non-A non-B hepatitis to the discovery of the hepatitis C virus and 25 years from the discovery of hepatitis C virus in 1989 to the approval of one of the most prescribed direct acting anti-viral agents (DAA) Sofosbuvir in 2013 for the treatment of hepatitis C] 6. The last sentence in page 5, [blocking viral membrane fusion at the present time]. I do not know any DAA could block viral membrane fusion. Please check. 7. Line 17, page 7, [to detect protein products of those clones] is miss-leading. Actually, they use these antigens to detect the antibodies in the patients’ sera. 8. Page 8, The following sentence is confusing: [Confirmatory reports from various groups worldwide all corroborated that replicons were robust in vitro replication (subgenomic HCV replication system) systems supporting complete life cycle of HCV in cell culture], if sub-genomic replicon is mentioned (ref. 28), it is not complete life cycle of HCV. 9. Abbreviation. The full-name [hepatitis C virus] appears for the first time and is followed by the abbreviation [(HCV)]. Then, HCV is used afterward. So is [World Health Organization (WHO)]. 10. Please cite the original article rather than the comments or review articles written by other authors. [Choo QL, Kuo G, Weiner AJ, Overby LR, Bradley DW, Houghton M. Isolation of a
PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 76171

Title: Milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer’s code: 03022180

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: FAASLD, MD, PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Professor

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: Brazil

Author’s Country/Territory: Mexico

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-04

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-05 00:13

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-13 14:05

Review time: 8 Days and 13 Hours

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| Re-review          | [ Y] Yes                   | [ ] No                        |

| Peer-reviewer      | Peer-Review: [ Y] Anonymous | [ ] Onymous                  |
was delighted to read this opinion review entitled “Milestones in the discovery of Hepatitis C.” It is well written, up-to-date and brings pleasant memories to the readers dealing with viral hepatitis in the old times. I have a few minor comments that might be considered by the authors as follows:

Introduction: Session: DISCOVERY OF HEPATITIS C. INTRODUCTION The word introduction would fit better as the subtitle of this session Page 3, Line 4: Second Nobel prize: It would be interesting to point out the first one. Page 5: “mentally retarded children” could be substituted for a better term, like “children with mental disorders,” maybe... There are “track changes” comments throughout the manuscript. Please delete them. Session: ELIMINATION OF HEPATITIS C In order to update the text, the authors could include the main drawbacks that limit hepatitis C elimination nowadays, like the SARS-COV pandemic, among others. In addition, the heterogeneity among the different continents regarding testing and HCV treatment should be emphasized.
## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology  
**Manuscript NO:** 76171  
**Title:** Milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C  
**Provenance and peer review:** Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed  
**Peer-review model:** Single blind  
**Reviewer’s code:** 03261931  
**Position:** Associate Editor  
**Academic degree:** MD, PhD  
**Professional title:** Director, Professor  
**Reviewer’s Country/Territory:** Taiwan  
**Author’s Country/Territory:** Mexico  
**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-03-04  
**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique  
**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-03-08 17:46  
**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-03-18 05:07  
**Review time:** 9 Days and 11 Hours

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The review is of clinical and scientific importance in the field of biomedical science and well written. Just only few comments. Major comments: 1. Please provide a figure with the timeline of landmark milestones of HCV history. 2. Please address the unmet issues that need to be resolved currently, especially the post-SVR liver complication (Huang CF, et al. Clin Mol Hepatol. 2020 Jul;26(3):251-260.) Minor comments: 3. Page 3, para 2. “entry inhibitors, protease inhibitors, polymerase inhibitors and NS5A inhibitors [3,4] the former being the most successful prodrug developed and currently used in the WHO policy for world elimination of hepatitis C”. Actually, entry inhibitors are not currently available DAA in clinical practice. 4. Page 9, para 4. “That is a 90 % reduction in incidence and a 65 % reduction in mortality by 2020 and a new guidance was released in June 2021.” It should be “That is a 90 % reduction in incidence and a 65 % reduction in mortality by 2030 and a new guidance was released in June 2021”. 5. The English should be reviewed by native English experts.
**RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT**

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology  
**Manuscript NO:** 76171  
**Title:** Milestones in the discovery of hepatitis C  
**Provenance and peer review:** Invited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed  
**Peer-review model:** Single blind  
**Reviewer’s code:** 02528485  
**Position:** Peer Reviewer  
**Academic degree:** PhD  
**Professional title:** Professor  
**Reviewer’s Country/Territory:** Taiwan  
**Author’s Country/Territory:** Mexico  
**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-03-04  
**Reviewer chosen by:** Jing-Jie Wang  
**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-06-03 05:00  
**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-06-22 00:29  
**Review time:** 18 Days and 19 Hours

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
This revised manuscript is recommended to be accepted.