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Larissa 23-04-2013

Prof. Thomas Y Ma

Editor-in-Chief, *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology*

Dear Professor Ma,

Thank you very much for your e-mail message dated April 11, 2013 concerning our manuscript by Zachou et al your Ref. ESPS Ms No: 2807 entitled “***HBV reactivation in HBsAg negative patients receiving immunosuppression: a hidden threat***” that is kindly been accepted for publication after minor revisions in *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology*.

Today we submit our revised manuscript following your instructions with all changes precisely indicated in the text; deletions are also obvious. This work has not been published nor is under consideration elsewhere and I clearly state that all co-authors have seen and agreed with the contents of the manuscript. In addition, all authors have substantially contributed to this work and they have not any financial, consultant or institutional conflict of interest.

We are very grateful to you and the assessors for the helpful and thoughtful recommendations and for your willingness to consider a revised manuscript. We believe that we addressed all of them satisfactorily. All of us feel that our paper has now been significantly improved.

Title: HBV reactivation in HBsAg negative patients receiving immunosuppression: a hidden threat

Authors: Kalliopi Zachou, Alexandros Sarantopoulos, Nikolaos K Gatselis, Themistoklis Vassiliadis, Stella Gabeta, Aggelos Stefos, Asterios Saitis, Panagiota Boura, George N Dalekos

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 2807

Editor comments:

Format has been updated as a “brief article”. Corrections and quires made by the editor and typesetting were accepted and addressed accordingly (please see new edited article). Finally, several reconstructions and corrections of grammatical errors in the whole new text have been done by a native speaker of English.

Reviewer #1:

1. “In section of Methods, in your statement: or resolved (antiHBs(+)/antiHBc(+)/HBsAg(+), the last one should be HBsAg(-)”.

Reply: We corrected this mistake. Thank you.

2. *“As you have mentioned seroconversion in two opposite directions in your manuscript, I think it is appropriate to define the seroconversion after reactivation in the related paragraph in section of results”.*

Reply: We have followed your recommendation and the definition of seroconversion is now added in the revised version (please see page 9).

3. *“In section of discussion, the paragraph starting with: Male sex.....in HBsAg (+) cancer patients, should be corrected to HBsAg(-)”.*

Reply: We corrected this mistake. Thank you.

Reviewer #2:

“Need details on how this study was done retrospective? How were they found? Is there a denominator needs to be organized”

Reply: According to your comments we have now added clearly how these patients were recruited (please see page 7, first paragraph).

Once again, I would like to thank you and the referees for your helpful suggestions and for giving us the opportunity to submit our accepted revised manuscript for publication in the *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology*.

Best wishes

Sincerely yours,



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Head, Department of Medicine and
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