



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	2013_IJTDH_5922
Title of the Manuscript:	Hepcidin: A New noninvasive biomarker for histological cirrhosis in Hepatitis C virus Patients
Type of the Article	Research Paper

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.

To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

(<http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline>)



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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<u>Compulsory</u> REVISION comments	The authors showed that serum hepcidin levels significantly decreased according to the histological progression in HCV patients, while iron indices significantly increased. From these findings, they concluded that serum hepcidin levels may predict advanced stages of chronic hepatitis C. Although their attempt is unique, there is criticism about their conclusion. 1. If the authors claim hepcidin as a marker for cirrhosis, multivariate analysis should be performed. Nevertheless, they only showed the results from univariate analysis. Are serum hepcidin levels independently associated with liver cirrhosis? 2. In the discussion section, simple comparison between the results in the study and those in other studies is frequently seen. The authors should describe their original discussion. 3. According to the authors' theory, iron indices may also predict liver cirrhosis in HCV patients. Namely, hepcidin measurement is not always necessary, because it is troublesome and expensive. Therefore, the specific role of hepcidin should be addressed in detail.	- We want to say that serum hepcidine associated independently to liver cirrhosis - Estimation of serum hepcidine level is not expensive - Patients with decompensated cirrhosis had been excluded from the study



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	4. The following sentence in the discussion is hard to understand. "This can be explained by that, they excluded decompensated patients from their study. " Why can the authors say so? 5. The manuscript should be proofread by native English speakers.	
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments		
<u>Optional/General</u> comments		