



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)
Compulsory REVISION comments	The authors are asked to correct some minor typos that will not be part of the revision. In general the paper lacks precision and misses details that would greatly improve analysis of the results by the reader. <i>Statistical analysis</i> will benefit from significance of partial comparisons, namely controls v CHC; control v. cirrhosis, CHC v cirrhosis. That will no doubt strengthen the basis for any conclusion regarding the potential role of hepcidin values as a marker of progression of hepatic fibrosis. <i>Methods</i> will equally benefit from more detailed descriptions. References. There is no mention of the work of Olez et al, Eur.j Gastro and Hepatology 22: 461, who found that pro hepcidin in HCV was independently associated with liver fibrosis scores, but not with iron scores. Contrary to Olmez et al., Aoki et al in an earlier paper from 2005 found that hepcidin mRNA expression correlated with hepatic iron concentration and ferritin, a result similar to that now reported in the submitted ms. I could not find reference to the relevant study of Aoki nor to one other highly relevant relevant study done with the measure of hepcidin mRNA done in Egypt and published in The Egyptian Nat Cancer Inst. 21: 333-342 in 2009.	



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<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments		
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	In summary, the paper albeit its lack of novelty, to be acceptable for publication needs an extensive review of the points listed above. Such a revision will make a significant result for the follow up of HCV patients more easily visible for the reader.	

Note: Anonymous Reviewer