**Author's response to reviews**

**Title:** Efficacy of telbivudine in Taiwanese chronic hepatitis B patients compared with GLOBE extension study and predicting treatment outcome by HBV DNA kinetics at Week 24

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**Author's response to reviews:** see over
Dear editor:

I had submitted our manuscript entitled “Efficacy of telbivudine in Taiwanese chronic hepatitis B patients compared with GLOBE extension study and predicting treatment outcome by HBV DNA kinetics at Week 24.” to the important journal of BMC Gastroenterology. I got some comments from reviewers and editorial requirements.

Now, I give point-by-point response to the concerns as below:

a) Reviewer: Jia-Horng Kao
1. Yes, the limited number of patients, the conclusion has been change to “…to predict 4-year outcomes of telbivudine treatment may be a novel idea…” in red letters.
2. Yes, it still interesting to us, may be all of factors at baseline, W24 and reduction level of HBV DNA. Now, multivariate analysis need more time to perform from Globe team, may be do it in future.
3. About lower “e” seroconversion and higher resistance rate in Taiwanese, I put the possible reason and explanation in text in red letter.
4. HBsAg kinetic change in 6 Taiwanese patients was enrolled into study that was quite small number. But it was randomly from GLOBE when HBeAg seroconversion occurred, may be needed more patient to get more mature conclusion.
5. We have no individual patient with HBsAg seroclearance data from GLOBE except 6 HBsAg level study patients, and their HBV DNA are < 300 copies/mL, I put this result in text in red letters.
6. The association of HBV genotype with response or resistance is important and unclear. In Taiwan, genotype are B & C, in our study, we didn’t analyse this point because of limited patient number.
7. The P-value of comparison between HBV DNA reduction at week 24 has been done and revise it in Table 1 as red letters.
8. In Table 4, the title has been modified in Table 4 title as red letters.

b) Reviewer: Carlo Selmi
- Discretionary revisions:
  1. Table 1 has been modified to slimmer and ALT normalization has been put into text in red letters.
- Minor essential revisions:
  1. In extension study of GLOBE trial, telbivudine was only drug of study after year 2,
so, there were no broader comparison with other antiviral treatment.

2. Statistical method was mention in text in red letters

3. Thank you. “We discuss and communicate with GLOBE research team about the data and fully support by Novartis” will be change and put in text in red letters.

For editorial requirements:

About the ethic statement, I have document within the methods section of my Manuscript, including JIRB and DOH in Taiwan with number.

Thank you for your kindly waiting my revision of manuscript and reply the comments. We are looking for good response to publication and please address all correspondence to me at the address and numbers below.

Sincerely,

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