Reviewer's report

Title: Alpha-Fetoprotein Level as a Biomarker of Liver Fibrosis Status in 619 consecutive patients with Chronic Hepatitis B

Version: 2 Date: 19 April 2014

Reviewer: Vincenza Calvaruso

Reviewer's report:

In this second version the authors improved the readability of the manuscript and listed the several limitations of the manuscript in the discussion.

Even if the performance of AFP in predicting fibrosis among patients with chronic hepatitis B remains contestable, the proposal to create a model using a combination of different biomarkers could lead to interesting results.

In the previous version of the manuscript the median values of AFP at liver inflammation stages null was 6.1 ng/ml which was higher than the values reported for the severe stages of inflammation. However in the table 3 of this new version the median value is 2.7 ng/ml. How the authors explain this difference?

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

NA