Reviewer’s report

Title: Multimodal Therapy and Twenty Years of Valid Management of a Patient with Chronic Hepatitis B in a less Developed Western Region in China—Case Report and Review of the Literature

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Reviewer: Hie-Won Hann

Reviewer’s report:

Review of MNC Infectious Diseases. 12/7/18

Title "Twenty years of diagnosis and treatment for chronic hepatitis B in a patient residing in a less developed western region in China.

Comment:

This is a heart-warming real story of 20 years' treatment for a patient with chronic hepatitis B where there are limited resources and treatment drugs.

In an effort to avoid the development of lamivudine resistance, the authors carefully alternated a short term lamivudine therapy with interferon treatment.

During the 20 years of caring this patient, patient did not develop hepatocellular carcinoma.

However, he has progressed to decompensated liver cirrhosis with esophageal bleeding. This has been managed by repeated endoscopic variceal ligations and partial splenic artery embolization to reduce portal hypertension.

The author's effort with effective management is commendable.

Although at that stage, liver transplantation would have been the choice of treatment, in the face of limited resources, the authors' careful management was able to maintain the patient' health.

This is a commendable example of intelligent management of a patient with chronic hepatitis B in a remote region with limited resources, and successfully preventing the likely disastrous outcome attributed to the author's careful follow up and timely treatment.

This is a good lesson for the healthcare providers and patients where the available facilities and drug choices are limited and yet how best the situation can be managed.

Incidentally, if lamivudine in the dose of 150 mg instead of 100 mg is used (Believe the cost may be even lower for 150 mg tablet), the resistance rate is much lower especially if the baseline is lower than 10^6 copies/ml (published data). There has been a substantial number of patients with
chronic hepatitis B who have not developed resistance after 10-15 years of continuous therapy with 150 mg dose of lamivudine (personal communication)

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

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Yes

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