Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Comparison of Sanger sequencing for Hepatitis C Virus Genotyping with a Commercial Line Probe Assay in a tertiary hospital

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 03 Oct 2018

**Reviewer:** Emmanouil Magiorkinis

**Reviewer's report:**

This is an interesting study comparing InnoLIPA HCV genotyping with sequencing of various HCV regions. Although this study is not original since there are many other studies published with similar object, it still adds important information about the sensitivity and specificity of line probe genotyping assays. However, before this paper is accepted for publication, authors should address the following issues:

(a) Authors perform HCV genotyping by LiPA Assay and sequencing. Since they have HCV sequences, they should perform HCV genotyping by phylogenetic analysis using HCV reference sequences. Using the HCV genomic blast bank can give an initial genotyping result but it is not useful to identify HCV genotypes, especially when you have unidentified genotypes in your data set. Authors should perform phylogenetic analysis using at least two different phylogenetic methods and present phylogenetic trees using proper dataset of reference sequences.

(b) Authors should submit all sequences in GenBank database and provide accession numbers.

(c) It would be useful to present their results in a table showing the LiPA assay result in comparison with sequencing of various regions so as the reader to have direct access to their results.

(d) English needs minor editing.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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