Author’s response to reviews

Title: Association of NTCP polymorphisms with clinical outcome of hepatitis B infection in Thai Individuals

Authors:

Natthaya Chuaypen (natthaya.ch56@gmail.com)
Nongnaput Tuyapala (nongnaput34@hotmail.com)
Nutcha Pinjaroen (fon_nutcha@hotmail.com)
Sunchai Payungporn (medbiochemcu@gmail.com)
Pisit Tangkijvanich (pisittkvn@yahoo.com)

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear the editors

We appreciate the opportunity to submit a revision of our manuscript entitled “Association of NTCP polymorphisms with clinical outcome of hepatitis B infection in Thai Individuals” (MGTC-D-18-00503R2) for publication in BMC Medical Genetics. It is gratifying that our study is potentially acceptable for publication.

Please find the revised manuscript and a point-by-point response to the editor’s comments. As suggested by the editor, this revised manuscript is a clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colors.

This manuscript is not currently under consideration elsewhere, and all authors have approved the submission of this manuscript for publication in BMC Medical Genetics.

Thank you for considering this revised manuscript. We look forward to your kind reply.

Best regards,

Pisit Tangkijvanich, M.D.

Center of Excellence in Hepatitis and Liver Cancer, Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, 10330 Thailand
Telephone: +662-256-4482, Fax: +662-256-4482
Point-by-Point Response to the Editor’s Comments

Editor Comments:

1. It has come to our attention that within your Methods there is significant text overlap with other publications, particularly:


While we understand that you may wish to express some of the same ideas contained in these publications, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work. Please rephrase this section in your own words to avoid direct overlap (please note, we cannot accept direct textual overlap with any previously published works even if the authors of the work are yourselves). Please be informed that we cannot proceed with handling your manuscript before this issue is resolved, and the sections of text in question have been reformulated.

Ans. We appreciate the comment. We have rephrased the text in Methods as the editor’s suggestion.

2. We note that your abstract was previously published. Please cite this clearly within your manuscript.

Ans. We have cited that the abstract was partly presented at the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) Meeting 2018, November 9-13, 2018, in San Francisco, CA, USA. The abstract was also published in Hepatology 2018; 68:1237A-1238A.

3. Please confirm whether informed consent, written or verbal, was obtained from all participants and clearly state this in your "Ethics and Consent to Participate" section. If verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure. If the need for consent was waived by an ethics committee or is deemed unnecessary according to national regulations, please clearly state this, including the name of the committee or a reference to the relevant legislation.
Ans. We have confirmed in the "Ethics and Consent to Participate" section that written informed consent were obtained from all participants.

4. As part of our editorial policies we strongly encourage all authors to deposit their sequencing data before publication. Please deposit the sequencing data generated in this study in a suitable public repository such as the NCBI SRA database. Once you have deposited your data, ensure you provide the information on deposition and how to access these data in the ‘Availability of Data and Materials’ section in Declarations, including the permanent link or the unique identifier associated to it.

Ans. We have provided the accession number of NTCP SNPs, which have been registered in dbSNP from GenBank in Methods as NTCPrs2296651 (g.69778476G>A, GenBank accession number NC_000014.9) and rs4646287 (g.69796098C>T, GenBank accession number NC_000014.9).

5. Please represent authors' names using their full initials, not their full name, in the Authors’ Contributions section. If there are any duplicated initials, please differentiate them to make it clear that the initials refer to separate authors.

Ans. We have provided the authors' names using full initials in the Authors’ Contributions section.

6. In the “Funding” section of your declarations, please clarify the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

Ans. We have clarified these statements in the “Funding” section.