Reviewer’s report

Title: Efficacy and tolerability of sofosbuvir and daclatasvir for treatment of hepatitis C genotype 1 & 3 in patients undergoing hemodialysis- A prospective interventional clinical trial

Version: 2  Date: 22 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Masanori Atsukawa

Reviewer's report:

This article by Shafig Ur Rehman Cheema et al, assessed that the efficacy and safety of SOF/DCV regimen in patients on hemodialysis and they recommended full dose of SOF for patients regardless of ESRD state. Although this manuscript is well written, the reviewer considers that there are some critical concerns which should be clarified and corrected.

Major points
First off, nowadays, IFN-free DAA regimens were widely recommended for patients with or without renal impairment. Actually, guideline in several country and region were well known; e.g. AASLD, EASL, JSH and APASL. However, the patients with severe renal impairment were recommended to use DAAs other than SOF based regimen as author described. In clinical practice, many reports described the efficacy and safety of DAAs for chronic hepatitis patients with ESRD. GT1 patients for Elbasvir and Grazoprevir or Daclatasvir and Asunaprevir or Paritaprevir and Ombitasvir with retonavir, GT2 patients for Glecaprevir and Pibrentasvir and GT1-6 patients for Glecaprevir and Pibrentasvir and Pibrentasvir have been already published.


So, authors should cite these articles and describe the priority of SOF based regimen compared to other regimens described above in Introduction or Discussion section. Especially, patients with GT3 were all achieved SVR in this study. It was reported that SVR rate were lower in patients with GT3 in Phase 3 trials. So, this result is a strongest point in this study. Author should discuss about this point. To my knowledge, Gane E et al. (NEJM 201) reported the result of GP treatment in patients with GT3.
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As a minimum standard, please include a few sentences that outline what you think are the authors’ hypothesis/objectives, their main results, and the conclusions drawn. Your report should constructively instruct authors on how they can strengthen their paper to the point where it may be acceptable for publication, or provide detailed reasons as to why the manuscript does not fulfill our criteria for consideration. Please supply appropriate evidence using examples from the manuscript to substantiate your comments. Please break your comments into two bulleted or numbered sections: major and minor comments.

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