Reviewer's report

Title: Self-motivated medical care-seeking behaviors and disease progression in a community-based cohort of chronic hepatitis B virus-infected patients in China

Version: 1 Date: 22 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Rong-Nan Chien

Reviewer's report:

Dr. Zheng et al. reported their report entitled "self-motivated medical care and disease progression among community chronic HBV infections in China". Several drawbacks of this manuscript are found.

The major comment is that the definition of terminology is incorrect.

1. Inactive HBsAg carrier should be HBsAg(+), anti-HBe(+), normal ALT, HBV DNA<2000 IU/mL plus HBsAg level<1000 IU.

2. Chronic hepatitis B: HBsAg(+), either HBeAg(+) or anti-HBe(+), HBV DNA>2000 IU/mL plus abnormal ALT>6 months

3. Liver cirrhosis diagnosed by ultrasonography, the accuracy is only 70-75%

4. HCC diagnosed by ultrasonography is not correct enough.

5. HIV or HDV coinfection is not excluded.

6. Alcoholic or nonalcoholic fatty liver disease or steatohepatitis are not excluded.

7. The community study is too diverse and not well defined.

8. The cases numbers are too small to make a conclusion and high drop out rate

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.

No
Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests' below.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons
CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal