Author’s response to reviews

Title: Long-term outcomes and risk factors of thyroid dysfunction during pegylated interferon and ribavirin treatment in patients with chronic hepatitis C infection in Taiwan

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Response to Editor Comments:
1. Overlap

-- We note that the current submission contains some textual overlap with other previously published works, in particular:

https://www.e-sciencecentral.org/articles/pubreader/SC000018236

This overlap mainly exists throughout your manuscript. The largest area of concern is the discussion.

While we understand that you may wish to express some of the same ideas contained in this publication, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work.

Since there is overlap in the Methods section, please ensure to summarize the methods and cite the source.

Please rephrase these sections to minimise overlap.

Answer: To minimize overlap, the study methods was re-phrased and cited references (22,24). (page 7 and 8)

2. Competing Interests
Please add a competing interests section. If there were no competing interests please state this.

Answer: “All authors report no conflicts of interest” had been added in competing interests section. (page 21, line 29)

3. Formatting

Please remove the running title and word count on your title page.

Answer: running title and word count had been removed from title page. (page 2)

Please add a declaration heading after the abbreviations.

Answer: declaration heading had been added after abbreviations. (page 20, line 39)

Please reorder the declarations so that they are in the following format;

Ethics approval and consent to participate
Consent for publication
Availability of data and material
Competing interests
Funding
Authors' contributions
Acknowledgements

Answer: The order of declaration section had been organized as reviewer’s suggestion. (page 20-21)

4. Figures

-- Please provide figure titles/legends under a separate heading of 'Figure Legends' after the References. If Figure titles/legends are within the main text of the manuscript, please move them.

Answer: Figure title/legends had been moved to separate page after references. (page 32)

5. Clean Manuscript

At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files. Please ensure that all figures, tables and additional/supplementary files are cited within the text.

Answer: It had been done as reviewer’s suggestion.