Reviewer’s report

Title: Effectiveness of Direct-Acting Antiviral Therapy for Hepatitis C in Difficult-to-Treat Patients in a Safety-Net Health System: A Retrospective Cohort Study

Version: 0  Date: 06 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Scott Holmberg

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript provides interesting insights into a (successful) treatment program for hepatitis C in mainly indigent in Dallas, Texas. The report and analysis is straightforward, credible and refreshingly brief. It is commendable that they were able to achieve such good treatment success in this hard-to-treat population, and so the description of how the clinic works in the Methods (and in the Discussion) is quite helpful.

One main question: can the authors indicate how many qualified for treatment but were not treated? And why? (not covered, active substance use, etc)

Other suggestions for change are mainly discretionary, and mainly relate to Tables 1 and 2. In Table 1, readers would appreciate seeing the SVR rates for each of the groups listed, especially by treatment regimen; this entails additional column (columns) and if cell sizes are too small for analysis (eg those receiving EBR+GZR) that can be noted. Incidentally all abbreviations in the Table, such as drug abbreviations need to be spelled out in footnote. In Table 2 it helps to see the N's in the analysis --eg 56 with decompensated cirrhosis.

In the Abstract, please indicate that the "SVR...significantly lower in patients with decompensated cirrhosis" was 82.1%

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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

Yes

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:

Acceptable

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