

Review of: "Global Burden and Evolving Understanding of Hepatitis E Virus"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear corresponding author,

I hope these comments find you well. I appreciate your efforts in reviewing the different aspects of the hepatitis E virus (HEV). However, there are some issues that could enhance readers' understanding of your manuscript.

*** Abstract:**

- An important part of your work relates to HEV-caused fulminant hepatitis, but your abstract section does not cover it.
- I suggest adding 1-2 sentences of conclusion at the end of your abstract to provide key take-home messages for your audience.

*** Introduction:**

- Your introduction states that "Hepatitis E virus (HEV) is the leading cause of acute viral hepatitis worldwide." I could not find supporting data in the reference cited ("Ankorn MJ, Tedder RS. Hepatitis E: the current state of play. *Transfusion Medicine*. 2017 Apr;27(2):84-95."). The article referenced notes that "HEV is a major cause of acute hepatitis globally" and it is the most common cause of acute viral hepatitis in some particular regions, including the UK and parts of Europe. So please revise this sentence and review more references in this regard.
- In the following sentences, you mentioned that "The World Health Organization estimates that 2.3 billion people have already been infected with hepatitis E virus (HEV), 20 million cases are recorded each year, of which more than 3 million are acute cases causing approximately 44,000 deaths" according to this reference: "Hepatitis E Information | Division of Viral Hepatitis | CDC [Internet]. [cité 11 déc 2018]. Disponible sur: <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hev/index.htm>" However, I checked this link, and I did not find the data mentioned. Please double-check all references.
- Please clearly state the aim of your review at the end of the introduction.

*** Epidemiology:**

*** Virological characteristics:** Please specify which subdivision of the Hepeviridae family HEV belongs to and outline its characteristics.

*** Modes of Transmission:** Please review proven ways in which the virus does not transmit.

* **Environmental stability:** If possible, include the pH range within which the virus can tolerate.

- Ensure all sentences begin with a capital letter.

- This statement requires clarification and additional details: "The prevalence has long been underestimated, particularly among blood donors. Immunoglobulin G (IgG) antibodies are found in 1-20% of adults."

* **Pathogenicity:** "The first two cases of chronic HEV infection in HIV-infected individuals were reported in 2009. Since then, additional cases have been reported." Rather than just mentioning these cases, please discuss them in detail.

- The interesting part of extrahepatic manifestations, please discuss the time relationship between HEV infection and Guillain-Barre syndrome (and other manifestations).

* **Treatment:** Explain the clinical or laboratory findings associated with the decision for liver transplantation in patients with HEV.

- Consider adding a conclusion section to your review with take-home messages for researchers, clinicians, policymakers, and/or patients.