Jundishapur Journal of Chronic Disease Care
Volume 12 · Issue 3 · e137658

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Changing the Epidemiology and Pattern of Hepatitis B and C in the South of Fars Province, Southern Iran: 2015 - 2021

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SUBMITTED	REVISED	ACCEPTED	DOI
24 May 2023	20 Jun 2023	19 Jul 2023	10.5812/jjcdc-137658

About this report

This open peer review (OPR) report shows the public comments made on this article during peer review, by the reviewers, the associate editor and the editor-in-chief, for every revision round, together with the authors' replies. Comments appear only with the consent of the people who wrote them. Reviewers who chose to sign their report are named; the others are shown as "Referee". Comments are edited for language only, and confidential remarks to the editors are not included.

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Contents

1 **Original submission** Sasan Moogahi, Associate Editor, Editor-in-Chief 2
2 **Revision 1** Referee 1, Sasan Moogahi, Associate Editor, Editor-in-Chief 3
Authors' reply to reviewers 4
Reviewer and editor comments 6

1 Original submission

3 comments · 2 Jun 2023 – 11 Jun 2023

Sasan Moogahi Reviewer

MAJOR REVISION 2 Jun 2023

Greetings and Regards
Introduction:
1. The introduction is long.
2. Delete repeated sentences.
3. Material unrelated to this study should be deleted.
methods:
1. Based on the method used to collect data in this study, it is not possible to evaluate the trend of these diseases in the south of Iran. It is necessary to change the title of the article from south of Iran to south of Fars province or Larestan city.
2. How were the data collected in the health department of Larestan University? Was data collection passive or active? The disease registry method in this group should be carefully explained.
Results:
1. In table one, it is not clear whether the p-value reported in each part relates to a comparison of one factor across different years or a comparison of several factors across all the years studied. For example, is there a statistically significant difference in incidence among different age groups across all the years studied, or is there a statistically significant difference in incidence among people over fifty years of age across different years?
2. In Figure 3, the modes of disease transmission should be presented according to a reliable scientific source. For example, according to national guidelines, the modes of hepatitis B virus transmission include transmission through blood and blood products, transmission through sexual contact, and transmission from an infected mother to a baby.

Associate Editor

MINOR REVISION 11 Jun 2023

Dear author,
Thank you for submitting your manuscript to JJCDC. This study is interesting in the chronic illness field. Based on our reviewers' comments, your article needs some revisions in all parts. I recommend you revise the manuscript and resubmit it as soon as possible.
With best regards.

Editor-in-Chief

MAJOR REVISION 11 Jun 2023

Dear author,
Thank you for submitting your manuscript to JJCDC. This study is interesting in the chronic illness field. Based on our reviewers' comments, your article needs some revisions in all parts. I recommend you revise the manuscript and resubmit it as soon as possible.
With best regards.

2

Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Reviewer 1:

Greetings and Regards

Introduction:

1. The introduction is long: Additional content was removed.

2. Delete repeated sentences: Additional content was removed.

3. Materials unrelated to this study should be deleted: It is now corrected.

Methods:

1. Based on the method used in data collection in this study, it is not possible to evaluate the trend of these diseases in the south of Iran. It is necessary to change the title of the article from south of Iran to south of Fars province or Larestan city: It is now corrected.

2. How were the data collected in the health department of Larestan University? Was it passive or active? The disease registry method in this group should be carefully explained: It is added to the methods section.

Results:

1. In table one, it is not clear whether the p value taken in each part is related to the comparison of one factor in different years, or several factors have been compared with each other in the total of the studied years. For example, the incidence of different ages in the total of the studied years has a statistically significant difference with each other, or the incidence of age over fifty years has a statistically significant difference among different years: it is now corrected.

2. In Figure 3, the ways of disease transmission should be set based on one of the reliable scientific sources. For example, according to national guidelines, the ways of hepatitis B virus transmission include: transmission through blood and blood products, transmission through sexual contact, transmission from an infected mother to a baby: We designed the chart based on the University Center for Infectious Diseases standard checklist, which appears to be national. If possible, please leave the chart as it is.

Reviewer 2:

Dear editor

Greeting,

I appreciate the opportunity to read a valuable research project. This manuscript is fairly well-written about a very important issue Related to health and infectious diseases (HBV or HCV). However, there are several points, which the authors are expected to provide the necessary explanation about them or conduct the necessary corrections.

Title:

In my opinion, it is better to write Fars province instead of south of Iran in the title. Because the

Maybe the following title is more suitable for this article; it is now corrected.

"Epidemiology Pattern of Hepatitis B and C in the South of Iran (2015–2021): The Use of Cochrane-Armitage Trend Test epidemic of hepatitis B and C is different in the southern provinces of the country".

Introduction:

In the introduction, the importance and benefits of investigating the pattern of incidence and prevalence of hepatitis B should be emphasized: Unfortunately, according to the first reviewer's comments, we have to remove a lot of content from the introduction section. In order to apply your opinion, we mentioned the relevant topics in the discussion section.

Method:

The ethics code of the study is not mentioned: It is now added.

Results:

The title of figure 4 should be corrected; the mentioned variables are the reasons for referral for screening, not the causes of the disease: It is now corrected.

Discussion:

In discussion, please discuss the influence of the geographical location of the study area on the epidemiological pattern of hepatitis C and B. Because, as stated in the conclusion of the study, the pattern of hepatitis B and C epidemiology is different in different regions of Iran: It is added now.

Limitations of the study are not mentioned: It is added now.

Footnotes should be modified according to the format of the journal: It is now corrected.

2 Revision 1

4 comments · 26 Jun 2023 – 19 Jul 2023

Referee 1 Reviewer — ACCEPT 26 Jun 2023

Greetings
The corrections have been made, so the article is acceptable.

Sasan Moogahi Reviewer — ACCEPT 30 Jun 2023

Thanks for the corrections

Associate Editor — ACCEPT 19 Jul 2023

Dear Author,
This manuscript in the current version is acceptable for publication.
Thank you very much.

Editor-in-Chief — ACCEPT 19 Jul 2023

Dear Author,
This manuscript in the current version is acceptable for publication.
Thank you