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## Is the pattern of liver disease etiology changing in China?

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## **Is the pattern of liver disease etiology changing in China?**

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1 **Is the pattern of liver disease etiology changing in China?**  
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1 Dear Editor,  
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3 In a recent interesting paper, Zheng et al. reported the presence of increased transaminases  
4 (ALT) among candidate blood donors. Authors found a prevalence of 2.4% rarely associated to  
5 anti-HCV-positivity (0.4%) or HBsAg-positivity (0.36%). Moreover, in the former group, none of  
6 the donors resulted positive to polymerase chain reaction (PCR) assay performed after 24 weeks.  
7 Finally, authors reported a reduction of anti-HCV-positivity from 0.51% in the year 2012 to 0.38%  
8 in the year 2017.<sup>1</sup>  
9

10 Although the prevalence of anti-HCV in China follows different patterns,<sup>2</sup> it seems that at  
11 least the analyzed area follows a pattern similar to Western Countries. In the latter, in the last  
12 decades has been documented a reduction of viral hepatitis and a concomitant increase of non-viral  
13 causes. Among these, non-alcoholic and alcoholic steatohepatitis are the prevalent.<sup>3-5</sup> This could be  
14 the case of China too; as a consequence, considering that China is the most populous Country of the  
15 World, it might be useful to evaluate these changes through population-based screening programs.  
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