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#  Larissa, August 24, 2016

Prof. Giuseppe Leone

Editor-in-Chief, *Mediterranean Journal of Hematology and Infectious Diseases*

Dear Professor Leone,

We submitted today our original article by Zachou et al entitled *“***Patients with haemoglobinopathies and chronic hepatitis C: A really difficult to treat population in 2016?***”* for consideration for publication in *Mediterranean Journal of Hematology and Infectious Diseases*.

We believe that we offer important data on HCV treatment responses in “difficult” to treat patients with haemoglobinpathies (previous null responders to IFNa-based therapies, most with severe fibrosis/cirrhosis) treated with the new DAAs along with the notion that there were not drug-drug interactions between DAAs and the chelating regimens. Therefore, we would appreciate very much if you could consider the above paper for publication in *Mediterranean Journal of Hematology and Infectious Diseases*.

This work has not been published nor is under consideration elsewhere and I clearly state that all co-authors have seen and agreed with the contents of the manuscript. In addition, all authors have substantially contributed to this work and have not any financial, consultant or institutional conflict of interest.

Once again, I would like to thank you for permitting us the consideration for publication of our work to *Mediterranean Journal of Hematology and Infectious Diseases*.

Sincerely yours,



George N. Dalekos, MD, PhD

Professor of Medicine

Head, Department of Medicine and

Research Lab of Internal Medicine

President, Hellenic Association for the Study of the Liver