



### PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 55146

**Title:** Ultrasound liver elastography beyond liver fibrosis assessment

**Reviewer's code:** 00054465

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** United States

**Author's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-03-03

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

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**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



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This is a comprehensive review of the literature on shear wave elastography and its potential increased role in patients with cardiac and vascular congestion conditions of the liver. It certainly would be useful if it could be relied on as a good clinical assessment tool. The conclusions that you draw, are reasonable in that in non liver fibrosis patients, the technology may be a guide to diagnosis and therapy, but it is not as accurate or reliable as with patients who have liver fibrosis. This is a nice review of the literature and will be of interest to those in the field.



### PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 55146

**Title:** Ultrasound liver elastography beyond liver fibrosis assessment

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**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** Italy

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<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

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This is a well presented manuscript and there are no gross language issues. LS assessed by means of SWE is widely used in the diagnosis and prognosis analysis of liver related diseases, especially in the aspects of liver inflammation, cirrhosis and liver cancer. It is also used in the application in other liver diseases, such as Hepatic sinusoidal obstruction syndrome (SOS) and Budd-Chiari syndrome. In this paper, a small amount of content is related to the digestive tract system (liver), while most of the content is related to the cardiovascular system diseases, such as right heart failure and the impact of LS. Therefore, it is not suitable to be published in this magazine, and it is suggested to switch to other magazines with more relevant content. In the application of cardiovascular disease, as mentioned in the article, "It should also be emphasized that there is an interaction between the liver and the heart: heart failure and liver disease often co-exist, and heart failure "per se" may lead to irreversible liver disease." How to distinguish the interaction between the liver and the heart? In addition, Among the results of several case analysis literature cited, a considerable number of cases were lost, which may also affect the final results of LS in cardiovascular application.



### PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** France

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<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

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The topic of this review paper is very interesting. In shear wave elastography, liver stiffness is generally measured for fibrosis staging purposes. However, there are other clinical conditions that indirectly lead to liver stiffening. The paper presents a literature review of studies that measure the liver stiffness using SWE techniques in the assessment of heart and liver diseases, beyond liver fibrosis. It shed lights on ways to utilize the liver stiffness index as a biomarker of some heart and liver conditions. In general, the manuscript would benefit from a discussion about the different SWE techniques used to measure liver stiffness, as the technique itself influences the measurement. Moreover, some techniques provide a 2D map of stiffness in a large area while others provide a 1D local measurement. It would also gain strength and rigor, if for each cited study, the number of patients, technique used (possibly reproducibility of measurements, probe, etc), stiffness values found and cutoffs were systematically provided (when available). Here are some more specific comments: Title: When I first read the title of the paper, I thought it suggested that the most common application of Shear wave elastography was liver fibrosis and I thus expected a review of all applications of SWE other than liver fibrosis. Since the paper focusses on the assessment of liver stiffness only, I would suggest making it clear in the title so that readers do not get mislead by assuming that it is a general review of all applications of SWE other than liver fibrosis. Introduction 1st paragraph: A comment on the difference between TE and 2D SWE should be added. 2nd paragraph, 1st sentence: A verb is missing (“are”) Text p. 6: A subtitle “Right-sided heart disease” is missing (before the 3rd paragraph of p.6) p.8: It is not clear whether  $r=0.68$  is the correlation found for the adults or children group (it says that the correlation is much higher in the adults so adults should have  $r=0.84$ ). p..10: Please specify the stiffness values of the Fontanilla study. p. 11, last paragraph: Please use only one decimal to be consistent with other study reports. p.12: Can you specify the LS increase



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