

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 77470

Title: Use of Shear Wave Elastography for the Diagnosis and Follow-up of Biliary Atresia: A Meta-Analysis

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05088164

Position: Associate Editor

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Romania

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-01

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-05-16 16:22

Reviewer performed review: 2022-05-19 21:12

Review time: 3 Days and 4 Hours

Scientific quality	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<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
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Anonymous [<input type="radio"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="radio"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript "Use of shear-wave elastography for the diagnosis and follow-up of biliary atresia: a meta-analysis" by Wagner et al. presents the results of two meta-analyses of elastography in two serious situations during biliary atresia management. The paper is, in general, well written, but there are some issues regarding this study. The authors intended to analyze the SWE role in biliary atresia management, but the papers included in the analysis mentioned the use of different methods. In this way, the results are not fully comparable. Also, the age of the patients is very different, and the moment of the analysis may significantly influence the results as fibrosis has a quick evolution in biliary atresia. The diagnosis reference is also different as some used the biopsy and others the surgical exploration and cholangiogram. Still, their conclusions may be necessary for future developments and research in this field. Some of these aspects may be explained more in detail in the Discussions. The limitations of the study may be explained more in-depth. It will be essential to mention that the elastography may not reflect the fibrosis level correctly but the severity of cholestasis, as presented in many previous studies. Also, I would include the ultrasound findings as an early step in diagnosing biliary atresia. I consider that the Discussion section should include more discussions of the results.

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Reviewer's code: 04364230

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: FRCS, FRCS (Ed), FRCS (Gen Surg), MBBS, MCh, MS

Professional title: Dean, Doctor, Professor, Surgeon

Reviewer's Country/Territory: India

Author's Country/Territory: United States

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Language quality	<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
Conclusion	<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
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



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Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [<input type="checkbox"/>] Anonymous [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="checkbox"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Good analysis.

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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

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Reviewer's Country/Territory: Egypt

Author's Country/Territory: United States

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Language quality	[<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Grade A: Priority publishing [<input type="radio"/>] Grade B: Minor language polishing [<input type="radio"/>] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [<input type="radio"/>] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Accept (High priority) [<input type="radio"/>] Accept (General priority) [<input type="radio"/>] Minor revision [<input type="radio"/>] Major revision [<input type="radio"/>] Rejection
Re-review	[<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Yes [<input type="radio"/>] No

Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Anonymous [<input type="radio"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="radio"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I have reviewed the meta-analysis titled: "Use of Shear Wave Elastography for the Diagnosis and Follow-up of Biliary Atresia: A Meta-Analysis" with great interest. I think it is a very good work, analyzing various studies on a important subject, using a non-invasive technique to diagnose and follow up biliary atresia cases. These diagnostic modalities will in the future replace more invasive techniques. I admire the clarity of the limitations.