

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology

Manuscript NO: 52081

Title: The clinical research tale of NAFLD and atherosclerosis.

Reviewer's code: 03262371

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Academic Research, Doctor, Research Associate

Reviewer's country: Iran

Author's country: Italy

Manuscript submission date: 2019-10-15

Reviewer chosen by: Jin-Zhou Tang

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-11-01 12:28

Reviewer performed review: 2019-11-13 20:48

Review time: 12 Days and 8 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



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Dear editors of World Journal of Gastroenterology Many thanks for your kind invitation to review the manuscript entitled “The clinical research tale of NAFLD and atherosclerosis”. Clearly, the manuscript, as a narrative review, tries to evaluate the interrelationship between Atherosclerosis (ATH) and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD). Following my investigation of this manuscript, I think that considering some comments seems to be necessary. 1- The second paragraph of the background section has not any references. “Arterial stiffness is deemed..... such as the heart, brain or kidneys “. Unfortunately, Texts without references can be seen in other parts of this section. It should be noted that any statement in scientific papers needs a reference. 2- When someone reads the background section of a paper, he/she needs to get some information for previously performed research projects. I think that the information in this section is not appropriate. 3- I believe that authors need serious action about the writing style of this manuscript. Just consider these sentences in the section of current evidence: “Even in a relatively limited field of knowledge and science..... enhance novel knowledge and information”. In my opinion, there is no need for these words and phrases and they are not useful. A more scientific style should be considered. Accordingly, there are also some other parts in this manuscript which needs to be rewritten. 4- We know that Atherosclerosis among NAFLD patients is common. We have much evidence regarding this subject. But we cannot establish a causative effect between them yet. We have many powerful references for these two important facts even in 2019 and authors can use them in their manuscript:
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31516267>
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31455011>
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30094399> Best Rezaee-Zavareh

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT



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- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

BPG Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology

Manuscript NO: 52081

Title: The clinical research tale of NAFLD and atherosclerosis.

Reviewer's code: 03022180

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Professor

Reviewer's country: Brazil

Author's country: Italy

Manuscript submission date: 2019-10-15

Reviewer chosen by: Jin-Zhou Tang

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-11-17 14:20

Reviewer performed review: 2019-11-22 18:10

Review time: 5 Days and 3 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
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		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a mini review that comments on the pitfalls of the potential association between NAFLD and atherosclerosis. The text is well written and the author displays an interesting debate that might be taken in consideration. The author states that (page 3 line 15): This notion has some epidemiological support: regretfully, and surprisingly, no PWV measurement is currently recommended for any practical and accepted general use. The author is right to comment on the scarcity of the use of PWV in daily clinics. It is considered the gold standard to evaluate arterial stiffness and have been validated broadly. Maybe he could have emphasized the advantages of the method and cited the studies that have used this methodology in atherosclerosis setting. The author also comments (page 3 line 17): “Imaging measures of fat liver content have considerable weaknesses [2] given that they do not have complete correspondence to histology: nonetheless, they have a key role in medical practice, which is extensive and well appreciated, providing a suitable means for monitoring liver fatty content over time and after therapeutic interventions. The non-invasive methods to evaluate liver fibrosis have a good accuracy to identify advanced fibrosis, mainly liver cirrhosis and also a high negative predictive value to exclude advanced fibrosis. Although liver histology is still the gold standard for liver fibrosis, it also has many pitfalls and is not suitable for routine evaluation of patients with NAFLD due to its high prevalence and invasive profile. The author should also comment on other studies that have investigated the association of atherosclerosis and NAFLD. In fact in this mini review the authors comment only one published which might impact on the aim of the review. One study entitled “Increasing aortic stiffness is predictive of advanced liver fibrosis in patients with type-2 diabetes: the Rio-T2DM cohort study” has been published in Liver international in 2016. This study was an observational study that used transient elastography to prospectively evaluate diabetic patients with interesting results. The author comments on the importance of “omics” methodology, but he does not identify



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in the review any study that has used this methodology for investigating NAFLD and Atherosclerosis. If there is any study so far, this should be emphasized.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

BPG Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No