

Dear Editor,

Thank you for considering our manuscript entitled "Venous Doppler flow patterns, venous congestion, heart disease and renal dysfunction: a complex liaison" (Manuscript NO: 90142) for possible publication in the World Journal of Cardiology.

The reviewer's suggestions have been carefully evaluated and we greatly appreciate his/her time in reviewing our manuscript. Finally, we hope the reviewer could appreciate our efforts in answering his/her suggestions.

Answer to Reviewers' Comment

Reviewer #1:

Title: The title, "Venous Congestion in Heart Disease: Unraveling the Role of Ultrasonography and Doppler Flow Patterns," accurately reflects the main subject of the manuscript, which discusses the significance of venous congestion in heart disease and the diagnostic utility of ultrasonography and Doppler flow patterns.

Thank you for your kind words.

Abstract: The abstract effectively summarizes the key points of the manuscript, emphasizing the importance of venous congestion in heart disease and the role of ultrasonography and Doppler flow patterns in assessing fluid status. It provides a clear overview of the study's objectives and findings.

Thank you for your kind words.

Key Words: The key words appropriately reflect the focus of the manuscript, including terms such as venous congestion, ultrasonography, Doppler flow patterns, fluid overload, and cardio-renal syndrome.

Thank you for your kind words.

Background: The manuscript adequately describes the background, present status, and significance of the study. It highlights the clinical importance of investigating venous congestion in intensive care settings and its association with acute and chronic renal dysfunction in heart disease.

Thank you for your kind words.

Methods: The manuscript provides sufficient detail regarding the methods used, including the evaluation of venous Doppler profiles at multiple sites. However, more specific information on the study design and patient characteristics could enhance the clarity of the methods section.

Unfortunately, we cannot modify the manuscript following this suggestion, this manuscript is an editorial, therefore we did not carry out any type of investigation on a specific population.

Results: The research objectives are achieved through the experiments described in the study. The manuscript effectively communicates the contributions of the study to understanding the pathogenesis of renal dysfunction in heart disease.

Thank you for your kind words.

Discussion: The discussion section interprets the findings adequately and logically, emphasizing the significance of fluid overload and venous congestion in heart disease. The implications for clinical practice are clearly stated, and the discussion accurately discusses the paper's scientific significance.

Thank you for your kind words.

Illustrations and Tables: The figures, diagrams, and tables are of good quality and appropriately illustrative. However, some figures could benefit from more explicit labeling using arrows or asterisks. The legends are generally adequate and accurately reflect the images.

Thank you for your suggestion, however the figure merely summarizes the different venous Doppler profiles detected at multiple sites in normal conditions, and in the case of venous congestion and severe venous congestion. The colour in the background highlights the normal signal using green, the venous congestion using yellow, and the severe venous congestion using red. However, we could detect a grammar mistake in the word “venous”.

Biostatistics: The manuscript meets the requirements of biostatistics, providing appropriate statistical information to support the study's findings.

Thank you for your kind words.

Units: The manuscript adheres to the requirements of using SI units, ensuring consistency in the presentation of data.

Thank you for your kind words.

References: The manuscript appropriately cites the latest, important, and authoritative references in the Introduction and Discussion sections. No issues with self-citation, omission, incorrect citation, or over-citation were identified.

Thank you for your kind words.

Quality of Manuscript Organization and Presentation: The manuscript is well-organized and presented coherently. The style, language, and grammar are accurate and appropriate.

Thank you for your kind words.

Research Methods and Reporting: The manuscript follows BPG's standards for manuscript type and the appropriate topically-relevant category. It adheres to reporting guidelines relevant to the study type.

Thank you for your kind words.

Ethics Statements: The manuscript meets the requirements of ethics by providing formal ethics documents related to human studies and/or animal experiments, reviewed and approved by the local ethical review committee.

Thank you for your kind words.

Original Findings and New Hypotheses: The manuscript effectively communicates the original findings, hypotheses, and phenomena discovered through experiments. It proposes new hypotheses related to the role of venous congestion in heart disease and confirms these through experiments.

Thank you for your kind words.

Quality and Importance: The quality and importance of the manuscript are well-established. It presents new concepts, methods, and insights relevant to the understanding of fluid status in heart disease. The conclusions appropriately summarize the data and provide unique insights.

Thank you for your kind words.

Limitations and Future Directions: The manuscript discusses the limitations of the study and suggests future directions. It prompts questions and issues that remain to be solved, encouraging further research. The potential impact on basic science and clinical practice is acknowledged.

Thank you for your kind words.

Overall, I recommend accepting this manuscript for publication with minor revisions to address specific points in the methods section and figure labeling. The study makes a valuable contribution to the understanding of venous congestion in heart disease and the use of ultrasonography as a diagnostic tool.

Thank you for your kind words.

Company editor-in-chief:

I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Cardiology, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor. In order to respect and protect the author's intellectual property rights and prevent others from misappropriating figures without the author's authorization or abusing figures without indicating the source, we will indicate the author's copyright for figures originally generated by the author, and if the author has used a figure published elsewhere or that is copyrighted, the author needs to be authorized by the previous publisher or the copyright holder and/or indicate the reference source and copyrights. Please check and confirm whether the figures are original (i.e. generated de novo by the author(s) for this paper). If the picture is 'original', the author needs to add the following copyright information to the bottom right-hand side of the picture in PowerPoint (PPT): Copyright ©The Author(s) 2023. If an author of a submission is re-using a figure or figures published elsewhere, or that is copyrighted, the author must provide documentation that the previous publisher or copyright holder has given permission for the figure to be re-published; and correctly indicating the reference source and copyrights. For example, "Figure 1 Histopathological examination by hematoxylin-eosin staining (200 ×). A: Control group; B: Model group; C: Pioglitazone hydrochloride group; D: Chinese herbal medicine group. Citation: Yang JM, Sun Y, Wang M, Zhang XL, Zhang SJ, Gao YS, Chen L, Wu MY, Zhou L, Zhou YM, Wang Y, Zheng FJ, Li YH. Regulatory effect of a Chinese herbal medicine formula on non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. World J Gastroenterol 2019; 25(34): 5105-5119. Copyright ©The Author(s) 2019. Published by Baishideng Publishing Group Inc[6]". And please cite the reference source in the references list. If the author fails to properly cite the published or copyrighted picture(s) or table(s) as described above, he/she will be subject to withdrawal of the article from BPG publications and may even be held liable.

Figure 1 has been prepared and arranged using PowerPoint. Moreover, being figure 1 original, i.e. generated de novo by authors for this paper, the words Copyright ©The Authors 2023 have been added to the bottom right-hand side of the picture in PowerPoint (PPT).

Finally, the manuscript has been carefully reviewed by an experienced editor whose first language is English and who specializes in editing papers written by scientists whose native language is not English.

Thank you very much for all your work

Best regards,

Fabio Fabbian on the behalf of all authors (Alessio Di Maria, Rossella Siligato, Marta Bondanelli)