



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 52096

Title: The usefulness of autotaxin for the complication of liver cirrhosis

Reviewer's code: 00503345

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's country: Canada

Author's country: Japan

Reviewer chosen by: Artificial Intelligence Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-10-31 15:19

Reviewer performed review: 2019-11-07 21:43

Review time: 7 Days and 6 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input 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
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<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

In this manuscript the authors report on the clinical usefulness of monitoring serum ATX



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as a potential biomarker of liver cirrhosis complications. They report higher levels of serum ATX in women who have major complications of liver cirrhosis. However, amongst all the markers used to diagnose and monitor liver damages, ATX was the most useful biomarker associated with hepatic encephalopathy and varix ruptures in men. General Comments: This is an interesting retrospective observational cohort study evaluating whether serum ATX levels are associated with clinical parameters and complications of liver cirrhosis. Overall, the manuscript is well written and conveys a clear message. Minor points. Page 13, last paragraph: The last two sentences are redundant. One should be deleted. Discussion, page 16: My major criticism is the following statement made by the authors: "Third, the correlation between ATX and the hepatic venous pressure gradient (HVPG) was not confirmed." No data on hepatic venous pressure gradient measurements are included in the core article. It is mandatory to show the data and to describe those data in the results. Furthermore, this observation should be discussed in context of the relevant literature that has not been highlighted, but should be acknowledged.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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[] Plagiarism

[Y] No



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 52096

Title: The usefulness of autotaxin for the complication of liver cirrhosis

Reviewer's code: 02545570

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Attending Doctor, Chief Doctor, Director, Professor

Reviewer's country: China

Author's country: Japan

Reviewer chosen by: Artificial Intelligence Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-11-01 09:13

Reviewer performed review: 2019-11-08 09:15

Review time: 7 Days

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 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
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<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

In this manuscript, the authors conducted a multiple-center retrospective study to To



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assess the clinical usefulness of autotaxin (ATX) for assessing the complications of liver cirrhosis (LC). In total, this is an innovative and well-written article. However, there are some problems that the authors need to address:

1.Introduction part: The last paragraph, Page 8 line 5,“The assessment for the complications of LC is especially valuable in helping to make treatment decisions” Can authors provide reference(s) to state that how valuable of assessment for the complications of LC to clinical? Page 8 line 6: “...Therefore, the ATX level may be... ” . The word ‘Therefore’, I think ,does not fit here. It is just a speculation of the authors but there's no cause and effect if there are not accurate evidence from exiting studies.Please rectify. Methods: “Patients” paragraph, the last sentence “Patients with poorly controlled heart failure, severe renal dysfunction, and malignancies other than HCC were excluded”. So, the patients with HCC also included in this study, right? However, the situation of ATX in patients with HCC and the relationship between ATX and tumor-related index (e.g. AFP) were not reported.

2.Discussion: Although was a multiple center study which increased credibility of evidence, the inconsistency between experimental equipment and standardization should be one of the limitation in this study.

3.Conclusion: The Conclusion is too simple. Please add 1~2 sentences to state the clinical significance of this study.

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 52096

Title: The usefulness of autotaxin for the complication of liver cirrhosis

Reviewer's code: 02811953

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's country: United States

Author's country: Japan

Reviewer chosen by: Jin-Zhou Tang

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-11-04 14:06

Reviewer performed review: 2019-11-16 20:12

Review time: 12 Days and 6 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:
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publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
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			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
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			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript (52096) entitled "The usefulness of autotaxin for the complications of



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liver cirrhosis " was a manuscript by Xue Shao et al. The authors tried to assess the clinical usefulness of autotaxin (ATX) for evaluating the complications of liver cirrhosis (LC). The multicenter, retrospective study included samples from 400 patients. They concluded that ATX in men was more effective than any other biomarkers for detecting hepatic encephalopathy and varix ruptures. Main comments 1. More details are needed for experimental procedures. For example, for the measurement of serum AXT, please indicate the sample amount used and procedure of the blood collection and processing for others to repeat. 2. Please include serum ATX levels from healthy control subjects or subjects without reduction of liver functions. The comparison is essential to indicate that there is an elevation of ATX levels when there is a reduction of hepatic endothelial function of ATX clearance.

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