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Publishing
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA
Telephone: +1-925-399-1568
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https://www.wjgnet.com

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 54521

Title: Computed tomography in evaluating esophageal varices in cirrhotic patients comparing with liver stiffness measurement and magnetic resonance: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Reviewer's code: 02650654

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2020-02-13

Reviewer chosen by: Le Zhang

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-02-18 08:13

Reviewer performed review: 2020-02-18 09:58

Review time: 1 Hour

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 (High priority)	Peer-Review: <input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish		<input 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

I suggest to add that endoscopic can demonstrate associated gastroesophageal lesions, that increase the risk of varices to bleed. MR or CT angiographies cab be usefull to a complete study of the entire portal vein system , to discover ectopic varices, and also to get information about the intra-hepatic venous system.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- The same title
- Duplicate publication
- Plagiarism
- No

BPG Search:

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- No



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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 54521

Title: Computed tomography in evaluating esophageal varices in cirrhotic patients comparing with liver stiffness measurement and magnetic resonance: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Reviewer's code: 02575643

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: FRCS (Gen Surg), MD

Professional title: Assistant Professor, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2020-02-13

Reviewer chosen by: Le Zhang

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-02-20 10:56

Reviewer performed review: 2020-02-20 11:48

Review time: 1 Hour

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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting systematic review aimed to determine the overall accuracy and sensitivity of 3 non-invasive methods to diagnose esophageal varices and the risk of bleeding in patients with liver cirrhosis. The study is appropriate and timely. To determine with a non-invasive method the risk for bleeding of esophageal varices might have important clinical applications in daily practice. The study gives an overall view of the problem, and for sure does give clinical details which could be useful in making decisions in everyday practice. I have some points to address, which may help to give the paper a more significant clinical application. Minor Points. 1-The title is quite complex and difficult to understand. 2-The Authors should underline the fact that there was no direct comparison between the 3 non-invasive methods. The comparison was merely determined indirectly by the difference in accuracy in comparison to endoscopy for each method. This indirect comparison inevitably brings to a significant statistical bias. Major Points 1-Very few papers were included into the study in comparison to the many published papers on this subject. The reasons why some papers were included and others excluded should be more clearly specified. 2-The paper should give a better definition of the criteria used to assess the risk of bleeding at least for CT scan examination This could be a valuable practical clinical point. It is possible that different criteria were used



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in the reported studies about CT scan. 3-Bleeding of esophageal varices is quite a "generalized definiton". At least for the papers describing the accuracy of CT scan, it may be conveninet to specify the interval between CT scan and bleeding and somehow to define the entity of te bleeding and the clincial outcome. There is a signifcant difference between a minor bleeding self-resolving and an uncontrolled bleeding leading to death Future Perpsectives. The study is very important and interesting with significant practical applications. I suggest to include in a specific session papers which compared the 3 non-invasive methods (they are few but they exist). At the same time it could be interesting to analyze (or at least to mention in the paper) the possibility to identify in a multidimensional statistical method the simultaneous measurement of Liver Stiffness (by CT scan) and charactersitics of esophageal varices by CT scan. There is the possibility that combining the results of these two measurements by CT scan, we could have a better idea of the overall risk for bleeding. CT scan of the esophageal varices may give a morphological evidence of a local risk, liver stiffness could give a general idea of the general conditions of the liver frction, including an indirect evaluation of the probablity of a valid coagulation system. All these observations of mine could transform the paper from a mere virtual observation into a practival guideline useful in everyday practice.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- [] The same title
- [] Duplicate publication
- [] Plagiarism
- [Y] No

BPG Search:



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RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 54521

Title: Computed tomography in evaluating esophageal varices in cirrhotic patients comparing with liver stiffness measurement and magnetic resonance: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Reviewer's code: 02575643

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: FRCS (Gen Surg), MD

Professional title: Assistant Professor, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2020-02-13

Reviewer chosen by: Ying Dou

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-03-25 07:57

Reviewer performed review: 2020-03-25 07:59

Review time: 1 Hour

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
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<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority)	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
			<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

The paper opens many questions, but still it is of interest to the readers

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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BPG Search:

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- Duplicate publication
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