

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Cardiology

Manuscript NO: 54875

Title: Sonographic muscle mass assessment in patients after cardiothoracic surgery

Reviewer's code: 03723709

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Egypt

Author's Country/Territory: Greece

Manuscript submission date: 2020-02-29

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-03-01 22:56

Reviewer performed review: 2020-03-08 18:12

Review time: 6 Days and 19 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 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 type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

i review with interest the manuscript titled "Sonographic muscle mass assessment in patients after cardiothoracic surgery". the study is interesting but i have few comments: 1- the study needs good English editing. 2-what was the duration and time of the study? 3-what were the primary and the secondary outcomes? 4-how was the sample size estimated? 5- what were the inter and the intraobserver reliability for the ultrasound results? 6- the discussion is long and redundant. please rewrite it. 7-write the conclusion at the end of the discussion

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Cardiology

Manuscript NO: 54875

Title: Sonographic muscle mass assessment in patients after cardiothoracic surgery

Reviewer's code: 00225357

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree:

Professional title:

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Author's Country/Territory: Greece

Manuscript submission date: 2020-02-29

Reviewer chosen by: Jie Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-03-08 09:56

Reviewer performed review: 2020-03-12 11:21

Review time: 4 Days and 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input 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
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The present study addresses a timing and critical issue in post-surgical ICU physical impairment. Authors use a novel approach by measuring the thickness of quadriceps muscle before and after ICU stay by ultrasonography. They conclude that skeletal quadriceps muscle thickness by ultrasound shows a trend to a decrease in patients after cardiac surgery post-ICU admission and is associated with prolonged duration of mechanical ventilation and ICU length of stay. The approach is interesting and the use of a surrogate marker of physical strength may prove to be clinically very useful. There are some issues that need to be addressed: 1. standardization and reproducibility are critical in ultrasounds. Please provide details 2. The clinical implications should be better addressed: what to do with patients with a higher rate of muscle thinness? When to start passive rehabilitation? 3. In line with the previous comment, it would be very interesting to associate a grade of frailty and outcome data. It is well established that patients with a worse physical performance have a worse outcome one year after surgery.