

ROUND 1

Manuscript NO.: 59495, Case Report

Gastroesophageal varices in a patient presenting with essential thrombocythemia: A case report

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for your email dated 22 December 2020, and the valuable comments of the two reviewers. Based on the comments, we have made extensive modification on the original manuscript. Here, we attached the revised manuscript in which major changes made to the text were marked in yellow so that they can be easily identified. Our replies to each comment were also enclosed. We sincerely hope that the revised manuscript is acceptable for publication. Thank you for your kind consideration!

Yours Sincerely,

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Replies to Reviewer #1:

Comment 1: Authors might need to rephrase the background section. The article "IS" commonly referring to a singular item and not plural. Moreover, the authors might need to use multiple separate sentences to improve the readability of this section. I suggest a full-stop after (ET), then beginning a new sentence.

Reply: Thank you very much for your valuable suggestion! We have revised the Abstract based on your suggestion on Page 3, line 3-5.

Page 3, line 3-5: Gastroesophageal varices are a rare complication of essential thrombocythemia (ET). And ET is a chronic myeloproliferative neoplasm (MPN) characterized by an increased number of blood platelets.

Comment 2: In the first line, the authors stated, "denied any liver history." At present, this phrase is unclear. Did authors mean "denied a history of liver disease" instead?

Reply: Thank you very much for this valuable comment and suggestion! We have revised the Case summary based on your suggestion on Page 3, line 7-8.

Page 3, line 7-8: A 46-year-old woman, denied a history of liver disease, was admitted to our hospital on presentation of hematemesis.

Comment 3: In the third sentence (i.e., line 4), the authors stated, "not all portal hypertensions are caused by cirrhosis." I think the statement should read, "not all cases of hypertension are caused by cirrhosis."

Reply: Thank you very much for this valuable comment and suggestion! We have revised this sentence based on your suggestion on Page 4, line 5.

Page 4, line 5: However, not all cases of hypertension are caused by cirrhosis.

Comment 4: In the second sentence (i.e., second line), the authors might need to delete the word "past."

Reply: Thank you very much for this suggestion! We have deleted the word “past” on the Page 4, line 14.

Page 4, line 14: The patient had a history of stroke, but did not have any history of liver disease.

Comment 5: In the fourth sentence (i.e., line 5), the authors stated that “absence of liver palms.” Did the authors mean “absence of Palmar erythema” instead?

Reply: We apologize for the confusion! We truly consider the “absence of liver palms” as “absence of Palmar erythema”. We have revised this sentence based on your suggestion on Page 4, line 16-17.

Page 4, line 16-17: Physical examination revealed an absence of Palmar erythema, and spider angioma, and neither the skin nor the sclera was icteric.

Comment 6: Regarding laboratory investigation results, I suggest authors include their local laboratory’s normal reference-ranges. The ranges are not strictly the same universally. Also, the normal range of platelet is highly confounded by age, gender, and even race (see reference below) • Balduini CL, Noris P: Platelet count and aging. *Haematologica* 2014, 99(6):953-955. • Stevens RF, Alexander MK: A sex difference in the platelet count. *British journal of haematology* 1977, 37(2):295-300.

Reply: Thank you very much for your valuable suggestion! We have carefully read these two articles and added the laboratory’s normal reference-ranges on Page 4, line 20-21.

Page 4, line 20-21: white blood cell counts of $4.7 \times 10^9/L$, hemoglobin levels of 83g/L, and a platelet count of $397 \times 10^9/L$ (normal reference-ranges $125-350 \times 10^9/L$).

Comment 7: In the sentence which read as “Therefore, we considered that the esophageal and gastric varices might be relate to hematological diseases,”; the authors might need to add the letter “d” in front of the word “relate.”

Reply: Thank you very much for this suggestion! We have added the letter “d” in front of the word “relate” on Page 5, line 8-9.

Page 5, line 8-9: Therefore, we considered that the esophageal and gastric varices might be related to hematological diseases

Comment 8: Authors might need to define all abbreviations used in the table below the table (i.e., footnotes)

Reply: Thank you very much for this suggestion! We have defined all abbreviations used in the table below the table1 on Page 10, line 3-9.

Page 10, line 3-9: WBC: White blood cell; NEUT: neutrophil granulocyte; LY: Lymphocyte; MONO: Monocyte; EOS: Eosinocyte; BASO: Basocyte; RBC: Red blood cell; Hb: Hemoglobin; Ht: Hematocrit; MCV: Mean corpuscular volume; MCH: Mean corpuscular hemoglobin; MCHC: Mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration; Plt: Platelet; ALT: Alanine aminotransferase; AST: Aspartate aminotransferase; ALP: Alkaline phosphatase; γ -GTP: Gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase; Alb: Albumin; TP: Total protein; AMY: amylase; T-Bil: Total bilirubin; PT: Prothrombin time; APTT: Activated partial thromboplastin time;

Replies to Reviewer #2:

Thank you very much for your affirmation!

ROUND 2

Dear Editor,

We feel glad that the revised manuscript we submitted is satisfactory. Thank you very much for your valuable specific comments in the second-round review. Based on your advice on one minor change, we have made modification again on the original manuscript. Here, we attached revised manuscript in which that change made to the text were marked in yellow on Page 4, line 5. We sincerely hope the acceptance of this revised manuscript. Thank you for your kind consideration!

Yours Sincerely,

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