

March 14, 2014

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 8730-review.docx).

Title: Pro-atherosclerotic markers and cardiovascular risk factors one year after liver transplantation

Authors: Mario Reis Alvares-da-Silva, Claudia Pinto Marques Souza de Oliveira, José Tadeu Stefano, Hermes V Barbeiro, Denise Barbeiro, Francisco G Soriano, Alberto Queiroz Farias, Flair José Carrilho, Luiz Augusto Carneiro D'Albuquerque

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 8730

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1. Reviewer 00504131 suggested removing "data of donors on the methods section because they were not used in the discussion". The data was removed.
2. Reviewer 00504406 argued whether differences at the baseline regarding age or BMI might "have influenced further statistics". Additionally, the reviewer stated, "data after 1 year post LTX do not accurately reflect long-term prognosis", and suggest discussing the impact of immunosuppression and post-LTX renal function". We included in the manuscript a discussion regarding these topics.
3. Reviewer 00504306 suggested deleting at the introduction the following sentences: a) "Metabolic Syndrome (MS) and Diabetes Mellitus (DM) are closely related to these occurrences and have been linked with increased risks of CVD, cardiovascular death, liver-related death, and overall mortality. In fact, MS is common among LT recipients after transplantation" (lines 6-8); b) "The Framingham risk score (FRS) is widely used in clinical practice to identify high cardiovascular risk, but it does not accurately identify subclinical atherosclerosis." (lines 14-15). The sentences were deleted. In addition, the reviewer argued about the aim of the study, since "the relationship among pro-atherosclerotic markers (endothelial dysfunction and inflammation) in patients one year after liver transplantation" was not explored. The objective was rewritten. The reviewer also suggested adding blood pressure and waist circumference in Table 2. Since these data are lacking in several individuals in the control group and also in some of NASH patients, they were not included in the table. Reviewer 00504306 also suggested discussing baseline endothelial biomarkers in the included transplanted patients. Unfortunately, this data is not available, and this issue was added to the list of study's weaknesses. As suggested by the reviewer we included a discussion on drugs that can interfere on endothelial function. The 3rd reviewer also suggested reviewing the statistical analysis. We reviewed the statistical analysis and conclude that there was a mistake when describing the statistics tests we had effectively performed. All corrections were included in the paper final

version (highlighted in yellow).

4. Article was submitted to AJE. Editing certificate is attached.

5 The references and typesetting were corrected, and the editors' comments attached to the original manuscript were included in this final version.

6 Title was modified to "Pro-atherosclerotic markers and cardiovascular risk factors one year after liver transplantation".

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the World Journal of Gastroenterology.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mario Reis', with a horizontal line underneath.

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