

ANSWERING REVIEWERS



March 13, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 9328-review.doc).

Title: Expectations from imaging for Pre-Transplant Evaluation of Living Donor Liver Transplantation

Authors: Tiffany Henedige, Anil Gopinathan, Krishnakumar Madhavan

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Radiology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 9328

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

1. The abstract has been lengthened to no less than 200 words as required.
2. A Core tip has been added.
3. Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer
(1) "The presence or absence of portal vein thrombosis in the recipient can also impact the suitability for a transplant". Please justify your statement and provide a reference. Do you see any role of imaging modality to differentiate candidates with PVT or small caliber PV before going for OLT.

Response: The presence of portal vein thrombosis poses a challenge for the surgeon in terms of reconstruction of the portal vein anastomosis. A modified portal vein anastomosis would have to be undertaken. According to a paper by Matsuura et al., modified portal vein anastomotic techniques such as a patch graft, interposition graft or huge shunt vessels would have to be done. Factors such as portal vein flow and graft vessels need to be taken into account. The aforementioned paper by Matsuura et al. has been added to the reference list. For these reasons, imaging does play a role in the evaluation of the presence of a portal vein thrombosis or small caliber portal vein.

- (2) Hepatic volume: Which is better Manual or semi automatic or automatic methods.? Please provide a statement with a reference.

Response: Both Nakayama et al. and Suzuki et al. found that automated volumetric results were comparable with manual volumetric results but the former is more efficient. The following statement: "Studies have shown that automated volumetric results are comparable to manual volumetric results with the former being more efficient." has been added to the text.

- (3) Do you see a role of liver measurements, linear versus volumetric in candidates for OLT. Which one is better? Please provide a statement with a reference.

Response: Intuitively, volumetric measurements are superior to linear measurements. There is some literature on the equivalence of both techniques (eg Clinical Radiology Volume 65, Issue 4, April 2010, Pages 315-318). In our practice we use volumetric measurements and this is preferred/ trusted by our transplant surgeons as well. We do not have any experience of using linear measurements for assessing liver volume as part of LDLT work up, hence we do not

think we are qualified to make comments on this approach, in this review.

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

Sincerely yours,

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