PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases

Manuscript NO: 60281

Title: Serum neuron-specific enolase: A promising biomarker of silicosis

Reviewer's code: 05266760

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: FCPS, FEBS, MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor, Research Scientist

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Germany

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2020-11-10

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-11-17 03:15

Reviewer performed review: 2020-11-24 01:21

Review time: 6 Days and 22 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [Y] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y] Yes [ ] No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The diagnosis of silicosis is mainly based on occupational history, symptoms and imaging, among which imaging is the current gold standard. However, in practice, in some cases, chest X-ray examination cannot fully meet the clinical needs. And laboratory tests are needed to assist in differential diagnosis. Unfortunately, there has been no ideal biomarker for the diagnosis and differential diagnosis of silicosis until now. Eexcessive release of neuron-specific enolase into the blood under pathological conditions can lead to elevated serum neuron-specific enolase concentrations. Serum neuron-specific enolase can be used to evaluate neuronal and neuroendocrine cell damage and provide diagnostic information for neuroendocrine neoplasms. In this study, the authors further explored the role of serum neuron-specific enolase concentration in the diagnosis and staging of silicosis. The sample size in this study is big, and the inclusion criteria and reasonable. Results are interesting, and well discussed. Comments: 1. Some minor language polishing should be proofed and revised. 2. The discussion is somewhat long, I suggest to short it.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases

Manuscript NO: 60281

Title: Serum neuron-specific enolase: A promising biomarker of silicosis

Reviewer's code: 05261063

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: FEBS, MBBS

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Germany

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2020-11-10

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-11-11 04:56

Reviewer performed review: 2020-11-24 01:28

Review time: 12 Days and 20 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [Y] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[ ] Yes [Y] No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this study,   the clinical significance of serum neuron-specific enolase in the diagnosis and staging of silicosis was investigated. The design of the study is good, and the groups are well selected. The demographic characteristics and comparison of stages of silicosis are very interesting. Those results are well discussed, however, the limit of the study should also be discussed. A minor language editing is required. And the references should be checked and updated.