

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 56310

Title: Novel markers of endothelial dysfunction in hepatitis C virus related cirrhosis:
More than a mere prediction of esophageal varices

Reviewer's code: 02529596

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Chief Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Turkey

Author's Country/Territory: Egypt

Manuscript submission date: 2020-04-29

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-05-01 17:32

Reviewer performed review: 2020-05-05 19:16

Review time: 4 Days and 1 Hour

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 Grade E: Do not publish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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The definition of acronyms should be written. The English language of the text needs a minor revision.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 56310

Title: Novel markers of endothelial dysfunction in hepatitis C virus related cirrhosis:
More than a mere prediction of esophageal varices

Reviewer's code: 03656580

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Postdoc, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Egypt

Manuscript submission date: 2020-04-29

Reviewer chosen by: Ya-Juan Ma

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-06-27 00:49

Reviewer performed review: 2020-06-27 01:19

Review time: 1 Hour

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Authors evaluated the potential correlation of the changes in lipid profile, carotid intima media thickness (CIMT), ankle brachial index with severity of fibrosis, grades of esophageal varices, and fibrosis indices, because of hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection affects on lipid metabolism through enhancing the circulating levels of inflammatory cytokines, together with its impact on endothelial function. The data showed that VLDL ($P=0.001$), LDL/platelets ratios ($P=0.001$), CIMT ($P=0.001$), ABI ($P=0.001$) were the main parameters associated with significant fibrosis, EVs and endothelial dysfunction. CIMT and LDL/platelet ratio were predictive of advanced fibrosis and esophageal varices at cutoff values 1.1 mm and 1 respectively, with AUC 0.966 & 0.960, while VLDL, ABI at cutoff 16.5 mg/dl, 0.94 were predictive of advanced fibrosis and esophageal varices with AUC 0.891, 0.823 respectively ($p=0.001$), indicated CIMT, ABI, VLDL, LDL/platelet ratio should be non-invasive biomarkers of advanced fibrosis, presence of esophageal varices and endothelial dysfunction in liver cirrhosis.