

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

ESPS manuscript NO: 28879

Title: Can platelet count/spleen diameter ratio be used for cirrhotic children to predict esophageal varices?

Reviewer's code: 03317183

Reviewer's country: China

Science editor: Jing Yu

Date sent for review: 2016-07-21 13:12

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear authors, This paper shows that platelet count/spleen diameter ratio is not an appropriate index for cirrhotic children to predict esophageal varices. The platelet count may lose its discriminatory power because of multicausality (such as autoimmune events, myelotoxic effect of virus, or reduced synthesis of thrombopoietin). This may indicate that endoscopy remains to be the prompt choice for detecting esophageal varices in cirrhotic children. It is helpful for clinical doctors to perform endoscopic examination promptly. So, I recommend this paper to be published. However, I wonder can platelet count/spleen diameter ratio be helpful to discriminate large EVs from those with or without small EVs? If so, PC/SD ratio may be helpful. Would you please test this hypothesis using your data?

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

ESPS manuscript NO: 28879

Title: Can platelet count/spleen diameter ratio be used for cirrhotic children to predict esophageal varices?

Reviewer's code: 02438888

Reviewer's country: China

Science editor: Jing Yu

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> [] High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> [] Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> [] Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	<input type="checkbox"/> [] Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Esophageal variceal bleeding is a common and sometimes lethal complication of patients with cirrhosis. Pharmacological and endoscopic methods have been recommended for prevention of variceal bleeding in adult patients. Several non-invasive parameters have been investigated to reduce the burden on endoscopy units and complications with endoscopy including PC/SD ratio. Indeed, some reports indicated that PC/SD ratio is a useful tool to predict esophageal varices in adult patients. In the present study clinical data from 98 cirrhotic children were recorded and analyzed to investigate the potentials of non-invasive variables in predicting esophageal varices. The study results showed higher percentage of ascites in the EV-present group compared with the EV-absent group. However the difference of PC/SD ratio between presence and absence varices subgroup was not significant. That means PC/SD ratio is inappropriate for predicting esophageal varices in children with cirrhosis. The results of this study were inconsistent with other previous reports. The inconsistency may be due to heterogeneous patient group. Interestingly, this study tried to assess PC/SD ratio in children with cirrhosis for detecting EV according age groups. Despite the small



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number of patients, this study presented new findings and provided useful information for clinical study.