

Porto Alegre, april 06 2020.

Title: The Role of Micronutrients in Staging of Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD)

– A Retrospective Cross-Sectional Study

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Dear Editor of WJS

We thank you very much for the comments from the reviewers. All are of great importance and interest to us, and we tried to address them by answering or justifying all questions. The modifications are highlighted in the text in yellow.

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers, and we hope we have met the reviewers' expectations in regards to the questions, and also that you appreciate to read the manuscript again.

Reviewer number: 02541859 : The study is nicely written. But comparative tables showing mean levels of each micronutrient in each stage of steatosis, steatohepatitis and fibrosis would give a better picture of this study.

Answer: We would like to thank you for your suggestion. This table is really a good summary of the study. This data are shown in table 2, and we modified the title to make it more clear.

Reviewer number 02929648: Good paper

Answer: We thank for the approval of the manuscript, and we hope this will have an impact in this Journal.

Reviewer number: 03664977:

1.The strength of this article is the large cohort of > 600 cases of Bariatric surgery cases and blood levels of micronutrients preoperatively.

Answer: we thank for the comment, this group of bariatric surgery has the primacy in our center and has a big experience

2. The weakness is the retrospective study and cross-sectional study of single test preoperative micronutrients level. It will be better if there are one more test of micronutrients level post operatively; at 6-12 months.

Answer: Yes, this could be a great idea. But really we do not have the data in the post operative moment. So we tried to compare to the liver biopsy, because is also an important analysis.

Best regards, the authors