

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

Manuscript NO: 76200

Title: Nonselective beta-blocker use is associated with increased hepatic encephalopathy-related readmissions in cirrhosis

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 01436308

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Chief Physician

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-07

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-07 11:44

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-09 12:32

Review time: 2 Days

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 Grade E: Do not publish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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**Peer-reviewer
statements**

Peer-Review: ☒ Anonymous ☐ Onymous

Conflicts-of-Interest: ☐ Yes ☒ No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This retrospective study investigated the association of nonselective beta-blocker (NSBB) use with the risk of hepatic encephalopathy-related readmissions in patients with Child B or C cirrhosis. The authors found that NSBB use was independently associated with the first hepatic encephalopathy-related readmissions. They also found that NSBB use was an independent predictor of hepatic encephalopathy-related admissions per person-month. The study is interesting, and the manuscript is well written. My comments are listed below. 1. Whether the use of NSBB is associated with the risk of different grades of hepatic encephalopathy-related readmissions (e.g. grades II, or III, or IV, respectively)? 2. Is there any association between duration or dose of NSBB use and risk of hepatic encephalopathy-related readmissions? 3. How about the stability of NSBB prescription? Is there any patients quit the NSBB use or newly prescribed NSBB during follow up? 4. Whether quitting NSBB use is associated with a decreased risk of hepatic encephalopathy-related readmissions?

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Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05040445

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Chief Physician, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-07

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-07 07:09

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-15 16:37

Review time: 8 Days and 9 Hours

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
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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
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It is a very interesting study showing that Nonselective beta-blockers use is independently associated with increased HE-related readmissions in patients with cirrhosis, regardless of liver disease severity. The only limitation is that it is a retrospective study, however, it still gave some information about the safety of NSBB in our daily clinical practice.