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ESPS Peer-review Report
Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology
ESPS Manuscript NO: 7211
Title: Non-invasive prediction of forth-coming cirrhosis-related complications
Reviewer code: 00159278
Science editor: Zhai, Huan-Huan
Date sent for review: 2013-11-09 21:33
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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A (Excellent)	[Y] Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	[ ] Accept
[ ] Grade B (Very good)	[ ] Grade B: minor language polishing	[ ] Existed	[ ] High priority for publication
[Y] Grade C (Good)	[ ] Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	[ ] No records	[ ]Rejection
[ ] Grade D (Fair)	[ ] Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	[Y] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E (Poor)		[ ] Existed	[ ] Major revision
		[ ] No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I was asked to review the paper entitled ?Non-invasive prediction of forthcoming cirrhosis-related complications", by Kang W and colab. I think that it is a well written and comprehensive paper. However I think that there are some papers that should be mentioned: First of al: - Cosgrove D, et al. EFSUMB Guidelines and Recommendations on the Clinical Use of Ultrasound Elastography.Part 2: Clinical Applications. Ultraschall Med. 2013 Jun;34(3):238-53. These guidelines specify that "TE has some value for predicting the occurrence of complications of liver cirrhosis, portal hypertension, HCC and liver associated mortality. It cannot replace upper gastrointestinal endoscopy for identifying patient with varices" - Sporea I, et al. Value of transient elastography for the prediction of variceal bleeding. World J Gastroenterol. 2011 May 7;17(17):2206-10 – it is a paper that presents the results of TE in a cohort of 1000 cirrhotic patients - Bota S, et al. Can ARFI elastography predict the presence of significant esophageal varices in newly diagnosed cirrhotic patients? Ann Hepatol. 2012 Jul;11(4):519-25 – it proposes a new score including spleen stiffness and liver stiffness by ARFI to predict the presence of EV - Singh S, et al. Accuracy of spleen stiffness measurement in detection of esophageal varices in patients with chronic liver disease: systematic review and meta-analysis. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2013 Sep 18. doi:pii: S1542-3565(13)01320-7. 10.1016/j.cgh.2013.09.013.

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ESPS Peer-review Report
Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology
ESPS Manuscript NO: 7211
Title: Non-invasive prediction of forth-coming cirrhosis-related complications
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Science editor: Zhai, Huan-Huan
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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A (Excellent)	[ ] Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	[ ] Accept
[ ] Grade B (Very good)	[Y] Grade B: minor language polishing	[ ] Existed	[ ] High priority for publication
[Y] Grade C (Good)	[ ] Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	[ ] No records	[ ]Rejection
[ ] Grade D (Fair)	[ ] Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	[Y] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E (Poor)		[ ] Existed	[ ] Major revision
		[ ] No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
The paper by Kang and colleagues is a review of current knowledge about non-invasive prediction of cirrhosis related complications though non-invasive tools already validated for the diagnosis of liver fibrosis and cirrhosis. Indeed, recent data support the view that non-invasive tools, especially the most validated ones such as APRI, liver stiffness, Fibrotest and fib-4, can be used as prognostic markers to predict clinical outcomes in patients with chronic liver diseases. The topic is relevant, I have some comments that the authors should address. Major concerns: the paper focuses mostly on costly fibrosis methods and little space is given to simple non-invasive methods including APRI and Fib-4. Given their universal availability and their virtual no cost, these methods should still be considered, especially in poor-resources settings. A recent study by Angulo et al published in gastroenterology showed that simple non-invasive methods predict clinical outcomes in NAFLD. Another study by Sebastiani et al showed that simple biomarkers can predict presence of esophageal varices (J Hepatol 2010). Minor concerns: please correct english in the following sentences: page 6 line 11; page 7 line 12