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ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 11841

Title: Transient elastography improves detection of liver cirrhosis compared to routine screening tests

Reviewer code: 02861252

Science editor: Yuan Qi

Date sent for review: 2014-06-08 12:27

Date reviewed: 2014-06-17 21:24

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input 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"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

These are definitely good points; --Transient elastography allowed to identify additional 10% of cirrhotic patients among patients with chronic liver disease compared to routinely available non-invasive tests and examinations --Combination of transient elastography with conventional ultrasound or platelet count further improved diagnostic accuracy. --Transient elastography like the Child Pugh score should be a valuable tool to estimate progression of liver cirrhosis.



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ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 11841

Title: Transient elastography improves detection of liver cirrhosis compared to routine screening tests

Reviewer code: 02861131

Science editor: Yuan Qi

Date sent for review: 2014-06-08 12:27

Date reviewed: 2014-06-21 20:45

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<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"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Manuscript Number: 11841 Manuscript Title: TRANSIENT ELASTOGRAPHY IMPROVES DETECTION OF LIVER CIRRHOSIS COMPARED TO ROUTINE SCREENING TESTS Comments To Author GENERAL COMMENTS (1) The importance of the research and the significance of the research contents The authors of this article have been evaluated the diagnostic significance of transient elastography (TE) in a daily routine clinical setting in comparison to clinical signs, laboratory parameters and ultrasound. Diagnosis of liver cirrhosis and especially early stages of liver cirrhosis with its important clinical implications is often difficult and detection might be missed in daily clinical practice. (2) The novelty and innovative nature of the research Transient elastography has been compared with routinely available markers (clinical signs, simple laboratory parameters and ultrasound) in a large series of patients with histologically confirmed liver cirrhosis. A major advantage of transient elastography compared to other non-invasive tests is that it not only indicates the presence or absence but also severity of liver cirrhosis. In the present study liver stiffness was positively correlated to parameters of liver function like albumin, prothrombin time and bilirubin (3) The quality of the manuscript's presentation and readability The original article is well organized and the superiority of transient elastography to routine diagnostic of liver cirrhosis is presenting. (4) The ethics-related aspects of the research In the text didn't present the ethics-related aspect of study. (Was study approved by local ethical committee?) ? SPECIFIC COMMENTS Title: (1) The main



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and short titles accurately reflect the major topic and content of the study. Abstract: (1) The abstract provides a clear delineation between the aim, materials and methods, results (including important data), and conclusions. (2) The abstract presents the innovative and significant points related to the aim, materials and methods, results (including important data), and conclusions. Materials and Methods: (1) The materials and methods sufficiently described for the results and conclusions that are presented in the preceding sections. The sample size is defined (291 patients with chronic liver disease of different aetiologies). The study type and design is defined. One center (tertiary care center) cohort study (cohort - patients with chronic liver disease of different etiologies who underwent liver biopsy in this tertiary care center between 2005 and 2008). An inclusion criterion was restricted to patients with chronic liver disease (duration of liver disease > 6 months). Exclusion criteria was presents of acute flares defined as acute ALT elevation higher than 5 times the upper limit of the patient's individual baseline level. (2) The methods advanced and applied in an innovative way. Very interesting approach, first was performed liver biopsy ("gold standard" of diagnostic of liver cirrhosis) and after that transient elastography, ultrasound, biochemical parameters and cutaneous liver signs (within 12 months). (3) Sufficiently detailed descriptions are provided for methods used in the study which will allow other investigators to reproduce or validate the study. ? Liver histology and quantification of liver fibrosis - scoring system of Desmet and Scheuer or Kleiner, all liver specimens were stained with HE, Elastica-van-Gieson, Gomori, PAS-Diastase and iron stain ? Liver stiffness measurement - liver cirrhosis was assumed in case of a median value ≥ 13 kPa ? Conventional ultrasound examination - liver cirrhosis was suspected if two of the eight described criteria were present ? Cutaneous liver signs - liver cirrhosis was assumed in case of presenting at least one of the cutaneous liver signs ? Platelet count and APRI index - detailed described (4) The study design is rational and reliable. (5) The statistical methods are used appropriate. Results: (1) The