



ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 28276

Title: Presepsin teardown – pitfalls of biomarkers in the diagnosis and prognosis of bacterial infection in cirrhosis

Reviewer’s code: 03355965

Reviewer’s country: Italy

Science editor: Yuan Qi

Date sent for review: 2016-06-29 13:22

Date reviewed: 2016-07-18 00:14

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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Papp et al in this article aimed to assess the performance of presepsin in the diagnosis and prognosis of cirrhosis associated bacterial infections in comparison to CRP and PCT. Have Authors considered if there is any differences in presepsin values between gram-positive and gram-negative infections? Have Authors analysed any case of fungal infections? Other Authors used PCT and MR-proADM as markers of bacterial infections and reported interestingly differences depending on the pathogens causing infections: gram-positive VS Gram-negative or yeast infections. Please compare your results with these other studies by Angeletti S et al. citing these authors. Authors should provide a Table with the median value of PCT, CRP and presepsin found in patients with infections, patients with infections and organ failure and patients without infections to evidence any differences existing and give the reader an immediate look about it. Authors should clarify which control population used for ROC curve analysis and should provide a ROC curve comparison between PCT, CRP and presepsin. Making ROC curve comparison is possible to obtain a graphical representation that is the best way to indicate the ROC curve goodness of one marker over the others. Please follow the



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example of the article by Angeletti S et al.



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Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 28276

Title: Presepsin teardown – pitfalls of biomarkers in the diagnosis and prognosis of bacterial infection in cirrhosis

Reviewer’s code: 02943023

Reviewer’s country: South Korea

Science editor: Yuan Qi

Date sent for review: 2016-06-29 13:22

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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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
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		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This study suggests that presepsin is a promising biomarker during diagnostic procedure of bacterial infections in cirrhosis for enhancing diagnostic capacity of CRP and reflecting more accurately the severity of infections. Performance of presepsin is equal to PCT in these clinical settings. However, procalcitonin but not presepsin is a biomarker for predicting infection-related short-term mortality in patients with cirrhosis. I think this study is very well written with valuable results to publish. I just would like to ask couple of things. 1. Did you analyze the presepsin level according to the presence of ‘acute-on- chronic liver failure’? 2. What do you think the reason for only procalcitonin but not presepsin is a biomarker for predicting infection-related short-term mortality in patients with cirrhosis? 3. Do you have any suggestion for more aggressive or preemptive antibiotic therapy according to presepsin level in cirrhotic patients? It will be great if you answer about questions in the ‘Discussion’ section of the manuscript. Thank you so much.