

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 78044

Title: Dynamic blood presepsin levels are associated with severity and outcome of acute pancreatitis: A prospective cohort study

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03755068

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Consultant Physician-Scientist

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-06-06

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-06-11 15:06

Reviewer performed review: 2022-06-12 08:07

Review time: 17 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 Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" 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

I read with interest the paper by Dr. Xiao and coworkers on the predictive role of presepsin in patients with acute pancreatitis. The Authors prospectively collected 133 patients who were admitted with diagnosis of acute pancreatitis, and measured plasma levels of presepsin up to day 7. They demonstrated a correlation between presepsin levels and degree of acute pancreatitis, highlighting the role of presepsin as biomarker of inflammation. Moreover, patients with severe AP showed a lower clearance of presepsin at day 7. The paper is quite interesting, although the topic is not a novelty. Furthermore, there are many pitfalls that the Authors acknowledged in the Discussion section (mainly, the influence of renal dysfunction on presepsin levels; the comparison of a serum biomarker with clinical scores but not with other biomarkers of inflammation, as CRP or PCT). My comments - I think that a brief comment about the sample size should be added. Indeed, statistical analysis may have been influenced by the low number of patients who died (n. 7), and of patients who had a severe pancreatitis (n. 17) - What were the organs who failed? - How many infection (e.g., cholangitis) occurred? - What could be the role of presepsin in the clinical setting? Would it useful to rule out severe or moderate AP in the first days, allowing a rapid discharge? Indeed, a low PSP value at day 3 or day 5 may be of help more in identifying mild vs non mild disease than moderate vs severe. A comment would be of interest. - Are there other studies that investigated the role of PSP in patients with AP? If yes, were the PSP values comparable between studies?

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Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 04092118

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Postdoc, Senior Lecturer

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Romania

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-06-06

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Reviewer accepted review: 2022-06-19 17:53

Reviewer performed review: 2022-06-19 18:17

Review time: 1 Hour

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 type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
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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

I've read with great interest the manuscript "Dynamic blood presepsin levels is associated with severity and outcome of acute pancreatitis: a prospective cohort study". The authors approach an important issue in the management of acute pancreatitis – biomarkers that predict the severity of acute pancreatitis (AP) in the early phase. Regarding patient characteristics, the distribution of etiology of AP is odd (alcohol only 3%), but maybe typical for the Asian population. This should be discussed, as we know that some forms of AP are associated with higher severity. The results and dynamics of presepsin are quite intuitive. In order to increase the value of the paper, a correlation with other markers would be recommended, particularly with similar biomarkers such as procalcitonin. Also, regarding the association of presepsin clearance and AP severity – this might be explained by the renal failure in severe AP. Overall a good paper but more correlations with other biomarkers used for risk stratification would be warranted.

RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03755068

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Consultant Physician-Scientist

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-06-06

Reviewer chosen by: Han Zhang

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-07-27 18:05

Reviewer performed review: 2022-07-27 18:08

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous



**Baishideng
Publishing
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA
Telephone: +1-925-399-1568
E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
<https://www.wjgnet.com>

statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

the authors answered my previous comments no further action