

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hepatology

Manuscript NO: 75785

Title: Higher cardiovascular risk scores and liver fibrosis risk estimated by biomarkers

in patients with MAFLD

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03805186

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Chief Doctor, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Mexico

Manuscript submission date: 2022-02-17

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-02-19 15:05

Reviewer performed review: 2022-02-22 14:11

Review time: 2 Days and 23 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [Y] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing [Y] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<ul> <li>[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority)</li> <li>[ ] Minor revision [ Y] Major revision [ ] Rejection</li> </ul>
Re-review	[]Yes [Y]No



Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [] Onymous
statements	Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This study presents an application of liver fibrosis biomarkers to estimated higher cardiovascular risk scores and liver fibrosis risk in patients with MAFLD. And this study has certain practical value. But the paper needs very significant improvement before acceptance for publication. My detailed comments are as follows: 1. The abstract does not summarize and reflect the work described in the manuscript, The study background and aim can be written in more detail. There are some spelling mistakes in the manuscript, such as "ET was performed in 69 patients (55.2%) with indeterminate or high risk of fibrosis", which should be "TE was performed in 69 patients (55.2%) with indeterminate or high risk of fibrosis". Your manuscript needs careful editing by someone with expertise in technical English editing paying particular attention to English grammar, spelling, and sentence structure so that the goals and results of the study are clear to the reader. 2. In this study, the risk of liver fibrosis was determined with APRI, NAFLD and FIB-4 scores, this study can be combined with other non-invasive diagnostic models of liver fibrosis with high accuracy, such as aspartate aminotransferase (AST) to alanine aminotransferase (ALT) ratio (ARR), Forns index, BARD score, and Hepamet fibrosis score (HFS). CVR also can be assessed by using the SCORE combine with Framingham system. Transient hepatic elastography was performed only in 69 patients (55.2%) with indeterminate or high risk of fibrosis, the whole population should check for transient hepatic elastography. 3. The number of samples included in this study is small, it cannot well represent the overall population. The cross-sectional design of the study limits the ability to determine the causality and temporality of the observed associations. For the time being, this research question



should best be addressed with appropriate follow-up studies.



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**Reviewer's code:** 05645050

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Mexico

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Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-02-18 00:07

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Review time: 7 Days and 8 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [Y] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<ul> <li>[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing</li> <li>[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection</li> </ul>
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## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This cross-sectional, observational study evaluated the relationship between MAFLD and CVR in a group of Mexican patients using the Framingham risk score. The results showed that liver fibrosis, diabetes and hypertension independently increase CVR. However, there were some major concerns made the conclusion questionable. First, the risk of liver fibrosis was evaluated by several non-invasive methods, and there was a discrepancy on assessment of liver fibrosis stage using different methods. Therefore, the real hepatic fibrosis stage need to be comfirmed by analysis of hepatic tissue. Second, the sample of healthy volunteers and the final patients of MAFLD was relatively small, the results of the study was not strongly representative.