

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Hepatology*

**Manuscript NO:** 80998

**Title:** To scan or not to scan: Use of transient elastography in an Integrated Health System

**Provenance and peer review:** Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05270042

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Assistant Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Viet Nam

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-10-21

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-11-18 13:04

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-11-27 02:18

**Review time:** 8 Days and 13 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" 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 Grade E: Do not publish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: [ <input checked="" type="radio"/> ] Anonymous [ <input type="radio"/> ] Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="radio"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="radio"/> ] No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a well-thought-out topic demonstrating the need of using CDST to provide better health care for patients with NAFLD. However, there are a few issues the authors should clarify: 1. Why did the authors choose CDST as FiB4? 2. Did the authors use FibroScan to diagnose NAFLD? 3. For patients with NAFLD, it is important to evaluate the liver fibrosis. This allows the suitable ways of monitoring and treatments. Currently, there are many non-invasive methods to assess liver fibrosis such as measuring liver elasticity, or using biochemical markers. Among them, FibroScan is a good method. I don't understand the authors' intention to compare the impact before and after CDST. 4. Why should CDST be used before performing FibroScan to assess liver fibrosis?

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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05373202

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Chief Doctor, Staff Physician

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Turkey

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-10-21

**Reviewer chosen by:** Dong-Mei Wang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-11-30 13:16

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-11-30 13:23

**Review time:** 1 Hour

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

<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Anonymous [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] No

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The authors examined the demographics, clinical management, morbidity and mortality of a cohort of patients with NAFLD who underwent FibroScan, a non-invasive test to diagnose liver fibrosis, in this research. This research is centered around a CDST designed to guide PCPs in the care of patients with NAFLD. Patients before and after the CDST was implemented to determine its impact were compared. Interesting , well written paper. Congratulations

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**Reviewer's code:** 03261866

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Japan

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-10-21

**Reviewer chosen by:** Dong-Mei Wang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-12-04 13:47

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-12-13 14:31

**Review time:** 9 Days

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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
<b>Language quality</b>	<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
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Anonymous [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This study analyzed the clinical impact of the clinical decision support tool (CDST) utilizing FibroScan for patients with non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD). The study revealed that the number of FibroScan orders was increased, the percentage of patients diagnosed with early fibrosis stage was increased, and the rate of patients who underwent laboratory tests, imaging studies, and liver biopsy was decreased among those who underwent FibroScan. I have several questions and suggestions. It is not surprising that the number of FibroScan order was increased. The study demonstrated that the percentage of patients diagnosed with early fibrosis stage (F1) increased (7.8% -> 14.2%) and that with cirrhosis (F4) was decreased (28.7% -> 16.5%). However, a more important thing should be the absolute number, not the percentage, of patients diagnosed with each fibrosis stage. From this point of view, the total number of patients diagnosed with F4 was increased ( $115 \times 28.7/100 = 33$  ->  $843 \times 16.5/100 = 139$ ). The absolute number of patients diagnosed with F1 increased even more. I think the authors should emphasize this point. Similarly, the number of patients who underwent liver biopsies increased (10 -> 23). How was the biopsy result? What was the agreement between the biopsy result with the FibroScan result? Identifying more high-risk patients leads to increased costs. I know that it is difficult for this study to show that this will ultimately decrease mortality. However, the authors should at least discuss the cost-effectiveness the discussion section.

## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Assistant Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Viet Nam

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-10-21

**Reviewer chosen by:** Geng-Long Liu

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2023-01-10 12:27

**Reviewer performed review:** 2023-01-11 10:26

**Review time:** 21 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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
<b>Language quality</b>	<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
<b>Conclusion</b>	<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
<b>Peer-reviewer</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous



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statements

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

#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

I agree with the author's answers.