

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology

Manuscript NO: 35785

Title: Liver cirrhosis-effect on QT interval and cardiac autonomic nervous system activity

Reviewer's code: 03699937

Reviewer's country: Iran

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2017-08-07

Date reviewed: 2017-08-07

Review time: 1 Hour

| 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 type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> The same title | <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"/> Duplicate publication | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected | <input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor | | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision |
| | | BPG Search: | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> The same title | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> No | |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

thanks for let me review this observational study, interesting paper but some changes are required 1- remove most of method section 2- data presented in result section are mostly unnecessary, remove them all 3- rewrite the discussion with new wording also more concise text Afterward, the paper can be accepted best

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology

Manuscript NO: 35785

Title: Liver cirrhosis-effect on QT interval and cardiac autonomic nervous system activity

Reviewer's code: 02941504

Reviewer's country: China

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2017-08-07

Date reviewed: 2017-08-16

Review time: 9 Days

| 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor | | [Y] No | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision |
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| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism | |
| | | [Y] No | |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. QT interval is significantly prolonged in patients with liver cirrhosis. The phenomenon was found by Kowalski in 1953. In this article, they supplied many data about cardiac autonomic nervous system activity. It is conducive to monitoring the severity and progress of cirrhosis. 2. In the result part, please list subheading and show related results in this part.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology

Manuscript NO: 35785

Title: Liver cirrhosis-effect on QT interval and cardiac autonomic nervous system activity

Reviewer's code: 03567380

Reviewer's country: United States

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2017-08-07

Date reviewed: 2017-08-21

Review time: 14 Days

| 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 type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> The same title | <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"/> Duplicate publication | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected | <input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor | | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision |
| | | BPG Search: | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> The same title | |
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| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> No | |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The observational study by Tsiompanidis et al. describes how the presence of liver cirrhosis influences cardiac autonomic neuropathy and QT interval. This is a patient study that uses detailed inclusion/exclusion criteria and uses appropriate methodology. The authors conclude that cirrhotic patients have more severe cardiac autonomic neuropathy and a longer QT duration compared to controls. While this study was well performed, the authors could improve this study in a few areas, which are listed below.

- 1) The Child-Pugh grade includes determination of hepatic encephalopathy. Did any of these patients have covert/overt hepatic encephalopathy and did this influence QT interval/CAN? If so, this should be included in the results/discussion.
- 2) In the last paragraph of the results, the authors mention that diabetes and diuretics significantly influence the QT interval. The number of patients with these should be included in



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Table 1. Were there equivalent numbers of these patients in both the control and cirrhosis groups? In addition, does the data generated by the authors demonstrate that cirrhosis + diabetes increases QT interval/CAN to a greater degree than cirrhosis or diabetes alone? 3) Minor wording errors exist such as the first sentence of introduction which should read, "...including the cardiovascular and autonomic nervous systems (ANS)." The authors should proofread and edit manuscript as necessary to reduce these errors.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology

Manuscript NO: 35785

Title: Liver cirrhosis-effect on QT interval and cardiac autonomic nervous system activity

Reviewer's code: 02444978

Reviewer's country: Italy

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2017-08-07

Date reviewed: 2017-08-22

Review time: 15 Days

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT | CONCLUSION |
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| | | <input type="checkbox"/> No | |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This paper report a retrospective cross-sectional study in which QT interval-related parameters are related with the presence and the severity of liver cirrhosis, and with the prevalence of cardiac autonomic neuropathy. The topic is not original, since manifestations of cirrhotic cardiomyopathy, among which QT interval alterations, are known for some time. However, the study is well conducted, the results are clearly reported and the discussion is satisfactory. I have only minor suggestions to improve the discussion. In the discussion it is stated that "high values of dQT predict cardiovascular mortality in patients with diabetes or coronary artery disease" (pag.11, line 14). Have the Authors some data to establish if this is true also in cirrhotic patients? Also considering that this is a cross-sectional study that cannot establish a cause-effect relationship, are there any data in the literature that can better describe the pathogenesis of QT



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prolongation in cirrhosis? One hypothesis reported in the discussion involves the possible enhanced sympathoadrenal activity by increased circulating levels of noradrenalin with a “probable” downregulation of beta-adrenergic receptors. However, the use of propranolol reduces QT interval in patients with advanced liver cirrhosis. Are there studies that related the use of beta-blockers to cardiovascular mortality in cirrhotic patients?