

World Journal of Clinical Cases

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Effectiveness of Ferric Carboxymaltose for Iron Deficiency Anemia in Crohn's Disease Patients at a Tertiary Center in Brazil - A retrospective observational cohort study

Na Ma, Company Editor-in-Chief, Editorial Office
World Journal of Clinical Cases

Dear Dr. Ma,

Thank you for allowing us to resubmit our revised manuscript. We have modified the text per the reviewer's comments and provided a point-by-point reply to their concerns.

After these revisions, we hope our manuscript meets the required standards for publication in the World Journal of Clinical Cases. We agree with and are thankful for the reviewers' comments, for they greatly contributed to enriching the quality of the manuscript.

Best regards,

Prof. Raquel Franco Leal
University of Campinas
Campinas, São Paulo, Brazil

Point-by-point Reply to Reviewers' Comments:

REVIEWER 1

This paper is very interesting and contains an excellent and useful clinical information. As everybody knows, it is very frequent to attend patients with IBD associated with ferropenic anemia of different degrees. The authors analyze their experience in the treatment of this common complication with the infusion of one injection of carboxymaltose in a series of Crohn's disease compared with the results obtained in Brazilian patients. The study is retrospective but has been well designed and performed. The conclusion is clear, confirming the great efficacy and security of carboxymaltose use over other products in patients with severe iron deficiency associated.

Answer 1: We thank the reviewer for the time he/she spent evaluating our paper. Thank you for your comments regarding our paper.

REVIEWER 2

The paper underlines the efficacy of Ferric Carboxymaltose in Crohn's Disease anaemia and, in a subgroup of patients, the authors compare the results with the previous treatment with ferric hydroxide sucrose. The authors reported no statistical difference in hemoglobin and hematocrit levels after treatment with ferric hydroxide sucrose, while with a single dose of FCM, those levels showed a significant increase. The Hb levels in figure 2 seem to be very similar for both treatments. The efficacy of Ferric Carboxymaltose in iron deficiency and iron-restricted anaemia is well demonstrated in several clinical contexts. The comparison of ferric carboxymaltose and ferric hydroxide sucrose is the more relevant aspect of the paper from a scientific point of view. The results

of treatment with ferric hydroxide sucrose should be better described in terms of total dose of iron , level of HB pre and post treatment , treatment duration

Answer 2: We thank the reviewer for the time he/she spent evaluating our paper. Thank you for your comments regarding our paper, and we provided additional information about the treatment with ferric hydroxide sucrose in the manuscript. We hope that our changes have improved our manuscript.

“The median duration of the treatment with ferric hydroxide sucrose was 5.5 months (1-30) and the number of applications was 12 (4-32). The median hemoglobin concentration increased from 8.9 g/dL (6.5-11.8) to 9.7 g/dL (7.5-13.2) and the median hematocrit levels increased from 30.4 (22.2-37.8) to 34,54 (24.8-39.29) after treatment with ferric hydroxide sucrose.”

EDITORIAL OFFICE’S COMMENTS - Science editor

EDITORIAL OFFICE’S COMMENTS

Authors must revise the manuscript according to the Editorial Office’s comments and suggestions, which are listed below:

(1) Science editor:

The manuscript has been peer-reviewed, and it is ready for the first decision.

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

Answer 3: We thank the editor for the time he/she spent evaluating our paper. Thank you for your comments regarding our paper. We made additional language corrections in the manuscript and answered the comments/suggestions raised by the reviewers.

(2) Company editor-in-chief:

I recommend the manuscript to be published in the World Journal of Clinical Cases. Before final acceptance, when revising the manuscript, the author must supplement and improve the highlights of the latest cutting-edge research results, thereby further improving the content of the manuscript. To this end, authors are advised to apply a new tool, the Reference Citation Analysis (RCA). RCA is an artificial intelligence technology-based open multidisciplinary citation analysis database. In it, upon obtaining search results from the keywords entered by the author, "Impact Index Per Article" under "Ranked by" should be selected to find the latest highlight articles, which can then be used to further improve an article under preparation/peer-review/revision. Please visit our RCA database for more information at: <https://www.referencecitationanalysis.com/>.

Answer 4: We thank the editor for the time he/she spent evaluating our paper. Thank you for recommending it to be published in the World Journal of Clinical Cases. We added a paragraph in the discussion section highlighting the latest cutting-edge research results. In addition, we included two more references based on the RCA. We hope that our changes have improved our manuscript.

"The literature demonstrates the effectiveness of ferric carboxymaltose in many diseases. Several studies have demonstrated the important role that medication performs in cardiovascular diseases (38, 39). However, in the gastrointestinal tract, few studies have analyzed the effectiveness of FCM, especially in Crohn's disease. Thus, our study contributed to a greater understanding of the use of medication in this disease, helping clinical practice."

38. Ponikowski P, van Veldhuisen DJ, Comin-Colet J, Ertl G, Komajda M, Mareev V, McDonagh T, Parkhomenko A, Tavazzi L, Levesque V, Mori C, Roubert B, Filippatos G, Ruschitzka F, Anker SD; CONFIRM-HF Investigators. Beneficial effects of long-term intravenous iron therapy with ferric carboxymaltose in patients with symptomatic heart failure and iron deficiency†. Eur Heart J. 2015 Mar 14;36(11):657-68.

39. McDonagh, T., Damy, T., Doehner, W., Lam, C.S.P., Sindone, A., van der Meer, P., Cohen-Solal, A., Kindermann, I., Manito, N., Pfister, O., Pohjantähti-Maaroos, H., Taylor, J. and Comin-Colet, J. (2018), Screening, diagnosis and treatment of iron deficiency in chronic heart failure: putting the 2016 European Society of Cardiology heart failure guidelines into clinical practice. *Eur J Heart Fail*, 20: 1664-1672.