

Answering Reviewers

Following questions were raised by the reviewers and they have been answered accordingly.

Question 1: Radiological improvement of fatty liver should have been explained by showing a paired (pre- and post-treatment) CT/US photo of a representative case?

Answer: Pre- and post-treatment CT scan images, of the liver of a representative case, have been included in the revised manuscript now. In the caption, interpretation of the images has been provided by the radiologist.

Question 2: Detailed explanation is required to demonstrate consistency of data between the present and the prior reports (J Community Hosp Intern Med Perspect 2020; 10: 32-37)?

Answer: This question has been well addressed in the discussion portion of the manuscript and highlights are given below;

“A recently published retrospective study by Zafar *et al* showed increase in ALT and AST levels with the use of PCSK9 inhibitors, but of only 6.2 mg/dL and 5.8 mg/dL respectively. These are small increases and appear to be clinically insignificant. It is important to note as well that the follow-up time (since start of PCSK9 inhibitors) in that study was only 6 mo. A meta-analysis by Zhang *et al* evaluated 25 randomized control trials, comprising a total sample of 12,200 patients, and found that the PCSK9 inhibitors overall adverse effects profile was not significantly different than placebo. Rather, evolocumab was noted to reduce the rate of abnormal liver function, as was noted in our study. Hence, it can be concluded based on the available data that PCSK9 inhibitors are safe to use.”

Question 3: Potential mechanisms of the pharmacological efficacy should be described in the discussion section?

Answer: This question has been addressed in the revised manuscript as well and answer can be found in the discussion part of the manuscript. Highlights are given below;

“Some recent studies have shown that increased PCSK9 synthesis and release might be involved in NAFLD pathogenesis as well, which suggests that inhibition of PCSK9 may actually stop development or progression of NAFLD. Indeed, Theocharidou *et al* demonstrated such, which prompted our interest in this research project”