Reviewer's report

Title: Portal Vein Thrombosis; Risk factors, Clinical presentation and Treatment.

Version: 1 Date: 12 March 2007

Reviewer: Stephen Riordan

Reviewer's report:

General
This report concerning risk factors, clinical presentation and treatment of portal vein thrombosis based on a retrospective case series is timely in view of the increasing recognition of this disorder and current uncertainty as to its most appropriate management, particularly with regard to the role for anticoagulation. In keeping with other reports, the analysis points to several contributing factors in a substantial proportion of cases. Of major therapeutic relevance, the report adds support to the notion that anticoagulant therapy should be strongly considered, even in the setting of complicating varices.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
The data concerning risk factors for portal vein thrombosis at the top of page 8 are confusing and should be clarified. Similarly, Tables 2, 3 and 4 should be re-labelled so as to clarify exactly what groups the sample sizes of 67 and 48 actually refer.

The authors refer to statistical analyses being performed but no statistical values are listed in the text - this should be clarified.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests