Reviewer’s report

Title: Portal vein thrombosis in liver cirrhosis: Incidence, management, and outcome

Version: 0 Date: 17 May 2017

Reviewer: Arif Cosar

Reviewer's report:

Thanks to authors for presenting interesting article to BMC gastroenterology. Several studies have implicated the usefulness of danaparoid sodium and/or antithrombin III, in the treatment of portal vein thrombosis in patients with liver cirrhosis. Although the subject of this study is interesting and important, the methodology has a few pitfalls. As authors described in the discussion section, this study used retrospective cohort format and I think selection bias cannot be excluded. The introduction part of manuscript is a little long. All patient have relatively low Child-Pugh score, compared to the patients in real life.

- What do you mean with "acute cirrhosis" and how did you diagnose it? Acute type cirrhosis? (8-130)

"We divided the patients into two groups; patients of the acute type (n=27) developed cirrhosis within one month after hepatectomy (16 cases) or splenectomy (11 cases), while those of the chronic type (n=63) comprised all other patients".

- You mean "the risk of progression of of PVT"? (14-245)

"The results of this study showed that anticoagulation with DS is safe and effective treatment, significantly reducing the risk of PVT and liver decompensation"

- Which study's results? (14-260) and, in which kind of patients?

"Our results showed cumulative incidence of PVT of 4.6%, 8.2%, and 10.7% at 1, 3, and 5 years, respectively, suggesting high risk of PVT even at baseline and that such risk remains stable over time".

- Did the patients have any other reason for PVT other than cirrhosis, such as hypercoagulapathy? In addition, was there any relationship between treatment responses?

- What is the role of spontaneous portal vein recanalization in your study?
What is the final and new message of this study? It must be clearer in the conclusion part of manuscript.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I recommend additional statistical review

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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