Reviewer’s report

Title: The Magnitude and correlates of Esophageal Varices among newly diagnosed Cirrhotic Patients Undergoing Screening Upper Gastrointestinal Endoscopy before incident bleeding in North-Western Tanzania; a Cross Sectional Study

Version: 0 Date: 24 Mar 2019

Reviewer: KONSTANTINOS C. THOMOPOULOS

Reviewer's report:

In this study the authors try to find predictive factors for the presence of esophageal varices in patients with cirrhosis and portal hypertension. Their findings are similar to those presented in many others studies in the past from around the world. However a ideal combination of factors with high specificity and sensitivity has not been found yet. Neither in this study.

Comments

1. The causes of cirrhosis should be clearly defined.

2. Were there patients with non cirrhotic portal hypertension ;

3. It is not clear which factors are significant in the univariate analysis and which in the multivariate analysis. For example age and being married. The statistics should be better defined and analysed.

4. The majority of patients had ascites (83.41%), low albumin levels etc. So the majority suffered from decompensated cirrhosis. Only few had compensated cirrhosis. Probably the group of patients which was examined was not representative.

5. Child - Pugh score was not examined and analysed.

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

No

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.
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 am able to assess the statistics

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

Acceptable

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