Author’s response to reviews

Title: Evaluation of sepsis induced cardiac dysfunction as a predictor of mortality

Authors:

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Author’s response to reviews:

Reviewer reports:

Reviewer #1: Both hypovolemia induced by vasodilatation and/or fever as well as tachycardia frequently develop in sepsis. Both these hemodynamiv abnormalities may provoke left ventricular out flow tract gradient. Do authors measured compared between subgroups LVOT gradient. Do you measure heart rate during LVOT gradient. If yes, please provide findings and discus this problem in discussion section

Reviewer #1 Response

This was one of the limitation of our study. LVOT gradient was not measured, only VTI measured. So the effect of hypovolemia, HR and fever could not be assessed.

Reviewer #2: Author should be congratulated for the undertaken work.

There are some point that should be clarified:

1. First it should be written in Methods that APACHE II and Sofa score will be included in analysis, and explained briefly. (APACHE is one of the predictors of poor outcome)

Response- In the methods , APACHE II and SOFA score is included. Sentence stating variables identified as significant in bivariate analysis will be included in predictive model

Changes Highlighted. - In methods section, 2nd paragraph first two sentences.

Baseline characteristics, APACHE II and SOFA scores were calculated within 24 hrs of ICU admission. APACHE II score takes into account, clinical, laboratory, age and comorbidities. It indicates severity of illness. Similarly, SOFA score considers number of organ failures

Methods section 4th paragraph last sentence.
Variables identified as significant in the bivariate analysis were used as independent variables and outcome was used as dependent variable to develop a predictive model using logistic regression.

2. Secondary endpoint (length of ICU stay) should be erased, since it is not mentioned anywhere later. 4th page 1 row.
Response - 4th Page 1st row sentence erased.

3. 3rd Paragraph in discussion is confusing and should be deleted.
Response – 3rd Paragraph in discussion is deleted.

4. Author should indicate the clinical significance of the study.
Response- In conclusion 3rd sentence is added.
Assessment of cardiac function in sepsis patient is important and serial evaluation and measuring of the MAPSE may help to monitor the progress of the patient