Reviewer’s report

Title: Global Longitudinal Strain as an Indicator of Cardiac Iron Overload in Thalassemia Patients

Version: 0 Date: 12 Mar 2019

Reviewer: Pustika Wahidiyat

Reviewer's report:

This study is undeniably applicative, especially for low-income countries, in which T2* MRI is not always available. However, the English must be improved to help the readers get a better understanding. The line numbers on the left side are not in line with the sentences; hence, I give my comments as points for each section. Here are my comments:

Introduction

The reference no. 1 is too old. Please use the updated one.

Please revise the sentence "In thalassemia patients…… relieve thalassemia major manifestations"

Within the last three years, there were many studies evaluating the sensitivity and specificity of GLS to detect cardiac iron overload in Iran, with greater number of subjects and enrollment of control normal group. Please add the aims of this study.

Material and methods

Since a diagnostic study must be reproducible, please state the brand for each examination tools, along with the company's name.

Please state the no. of ethical approval

In the statistical analysis, only Pearson's correlation was used. Had the authors addressed data distribution for each variable? Please clarify and add it in the text.

Results

Demographic distribution data must be typed in the first paragraph, along with the percentage of iron chelation treatment

It is not acceptable to use mean±SD along with interquartile range. Please choose one of them that in accordance with the result of data distribution.

Table 1 results are quite confusing. How can one T2* MRI value has multiple correlations with the ferritin value. Please explain clearly.
Discussions
Please explain further why systolic velocity correlated significantly with the T2* MRI value, while diastolic velocity was not.

Limitations
All "iron overload" phrases must be added by "cardiac" before the word "iron"

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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