Reviewer's report

Title: Larger Omental Adipocytes Correlate with Greater Fetuin-A Reduction Following Sleeve Gastrectomy

Version: 0 Date: 31 Jan 2018

Reviewer: MING-TSAN LIN

Reviewer's report:

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This an interesting paper to evaluate the change of fetuin-A during the pre-sleeve gastrectomy diet induced body weight (BW) loss and postoperative BW loss. However, there are still several problems needed to be clarified.

1. The change and correlation to fetuin-A between male and female are different. The authors assumed that the lack of association in males may be due to limited sample size. How about the change of fetuin-A in the whole subjects, including male and female? Please explain the possible etiology.

2. Table 2 should add the levels of fetuin-A in female and male. Besides, it would be better to show all the data of all subjects in table 1 and 2.

3. The trend of the association of adipocyte size preoperative and postoperative change of fetuin-A is different. Please discuss the possible mechanisms.

4. Fetuin-A is a known marker of diabetes. How many subjects in this study have diabetes in the three time points? Any data of HbA1c?

5. Why were the patients with smoking or with a pacemaker or implanted defibrillator excluded? Would it influence the results?

6. In table 3, the authors analyzed the correlation of fetuin-A and HOMA-IR in the three time points. Please explain why to analyze these data and the possible mechanisms.

7. Page 8, line 18. What is the meaning of time in the sentence?
8. The conclusion should be simplified and focus on the finding of the study. What is the meaning of the last sentence in the manuscript "this protocol may have potential for …."

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.
No

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.
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