OPEN PEER REVIEW

Open Peer Review (OPR)

As a new feature for progressing towards transparency, we decided to open a new window for all of our editors as well as authors titled "**Open Peer Review**". We hope by this new facility, our reviewers will be more motivated and authors will be more satisfied with the review process. We believe that publishing our peer review reports could make a transparent and clear environment for all our efforts within a journal, but not all reviewers tend to publish their comments.

What is "Open Peer Review" process?

An "Open Peer Review" process is making the details of all review process (including reviewers, associate editors, and EICs comments) as "Public" as it is agreed by EIC, Authors, and reviewers.

Advantages of "Open Peer Review" process

- More transparency, constructiveness and tactful comments of the peer review process: leads to an increase in the quality of reviews
- More motivations for all involved roles in the review process
- Authors' satisfactions from the review process: Increases honesty between authors and reviewers
- Education of both authors and new students
- Prevents reviewers from following their individual agendas and leading to the detection of reviewers' conflicts of interests

You can find out more at:
https://sites.kowsarpub.com/kowsar/knowledgebase/category/tree.html#opr.html

Archives of Neuroscience
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Peer Review Report for "Platelet Indices for Predicting Patient Outcomes in Post-Neurosurgical Meningitis"

Author(s): Leila Simani, Mahbobeh Oroei, Hasan Sadeghi, Mahdi Amirdosara, Arezoo Chouhdari, Omidvar Rezaei, Mohammadreza Hajiesmaeili

Review Timeline:

Submit Date: 4 Aug 2018
Revised Date: 28 Oct 2018
Accepted Date: 12 Dec 2018

Revision (0)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

REFEREE: Reviewer | **Revision** (0)

10 Aug 2018

Dear AE,
The authors present a survey on the patients with post neurosurgical meningitis and they evaluated the role of some platelet parameters in the prediction of the final outcome. They included 37 patents. Although, this number of patients with post neurosurgical meningitis during a year for a tertiary neurosurgery center seems to be high, the case volume in this study is good, however.
I wish to mention some points;
1- The time of platelet measurements during the course of admission is unclear. For example, if they evaluated the mentioned parameters just after the diagnosis of meningitis? Or at the end of disease course? As you know, many medications may affect the platelet parameters especially platelet count including many drugs including anticonvulsants, antibiotics, and anticoagulants. Also, other complications including septicemia independent of the meningitis lead to platelet changes. So, the authors have to update and reanalyze their data by means of multivariate analysis on both groups.
2- Because the treatment course of post neurosurgical meningitis is time-consuming, it is better to compare the platelet parameters at the time of diagnosis of meningitis and follow the changes during the admission.

Thanks.

REFEREE: Associate Editor | **Revision** (0) 15 Aug 2018

Dear EIC,
The manuscript is studied, and there are some comments which should be addressed by the author. According to the comments, the document needs major revision.
Kind regards,

REFEREE: EIC | **Revision** (0) 15 Aug 2018

Dear Author,
Your article is reviewed by the reviewers carefully. According to their comments, this document needs major revision. Please follow their comments as requested.
Thanks.

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (1)

Reply to Reviewers

Ideally, the reviewing process can significantly improve the submitted manuscripts by allowing the authors to take into account the advice of reviewers. Author(s) must reply to all reviewers' comments in a separate Word file, point by point. A "**Reply to Reviewers**" document is submitted along with revised manuscript during submission of revised files, summarizing the changes that the authors made in response to the reviewers' comments. The responses to reviewers' comments specifies how the authors addressed each comment the reviewers made.

You can read the authors' responses to the reviewers' comments in the next page.

Manuscript ID:82911

Journal: Archives of Neuroscience

Dear Professor,

We were very pleased to have been given an opportunity to revise our paper, now entitled “Use of platelet indices for outcome patients in post neurosurgical meningitis”. In revised version, we have carefully considered your respectful reviewer comments and suggestions as well as did revise the manuscript and made the changes that was mentioned. After addressing the issues raised, we hope that these revisions improve the paper such that you and the reviewers now deem it worthy of publication in Archives of Neuroscience.

Responses to Reviewer

Major points:

The authors present a survey on the patients with post neurosurgical meningitis and they evaluated the role of some platelet parameters in the prediction of final outcome. They included 37 patents. Although, this number of patients with post neurosurgical meningitis during a year for a tertiary neurosurgery center seems to be high, the case volume in this study is good, however. I wish to mention some points;

Q1: The time of platelet measurements during the course of admission is unclear. For example, if they evaluated the mentioned parameters just after the diagnosis of meningitis? Or at the end of disease course? As you know, many medications may affect the platelet parameters especially platelet count including many drugs including anticonvulsants, antibiotics, and anticoagulants. Also, other complications including septicemia independent of the meningitis lead to platelet changes. So, the authors have to update and reanalyze their data by means of multivariate analysis on both groups.

Answer to comment 1:

According univariate analysis, the platelet indices, sepsis, pneumonia and ventilation had significant association with outcome. According to small number of outcome, we analyzed multivariate

regression with some variables and found no significant adjusted odds ratios (Table2). However, we recommend this analysis with appropriate event number.

Table 2: The estimation of mortality odds ratio for study-specific variables. Univariate & multivariate logistic regression for eight variables. Significant level<0.05

Variable	Univariate			Multivariate		
	Odds ratio	95%CI	P-value	Odds ratio	95%CI	P-value
PLT	0.989	0.981-0.998	0.014	0.994	0.918-1.007	0.385
PDW	1.347	1.059-1.713	0.015	1.172	0.700-1.963	0.547
MPV	1.695	1.026-2.801	0.039	0.730	0.230-2.314	0.593
Sepsis						
No	-	-	-			
Yes	18.889	2.075-171.964	0.009	9.828	0.313-308.180	0.194
Pneumonia						
No	-	-	-			
Yes	13.714	2.406-78.183	0.003	4.158	0.246-70.147	0.323
Steroid						
No	-	-	-			
Yes	0.929	0.218-3.964	0.920	2.790	0.044-171.094	0.628
Ventilation						
No	-	-	-			
Yes	22.500	2.449-206.736	0.006	6.014	0.325-111.286	0.779
CCI	1.673	1.085-2.578	0.020	2.011	0.918-4.407	0.081

Q2: Because the treatment course of post neurosurgical meningitis is time-consuming, it is better to compare the platelet parameters at the time of diagnosis of meningitis and follow the changes during the admission.

Answer to comment 2:

In order to assess the comparison of Platelet volume indices (PVIs) at the time admission, diagnosis, and discharge, we assessed the difference among PVIs and times different in survivor and non-survivor patients. Our data demonstrated that there were statistical significantly difference between

admission, time of diagnosis of meningitis, and discharge in PLT and PDW levels (p:0.007; p: 0.001 respectively) in non-survivor patients, Platelet count was significantly lower, and PDW was higher in time 2 and 3 as compare to time1, whereas, no statistically significant differences were found between MPV and time ($p > 0.05$). also, there were no significant time differences in PVIs in the survivor group (Fig1).

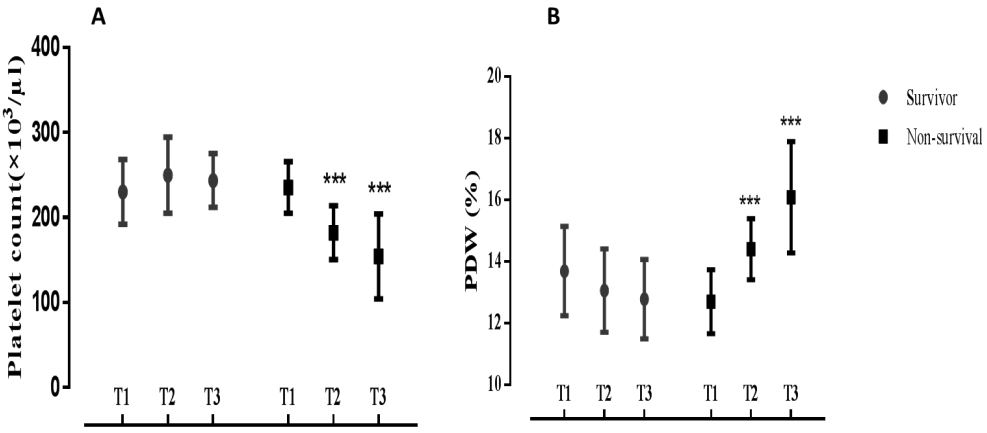

Fig1. The difference PLT count (A) and PDW (B)between T1 withT2 and T2 in the survivor and the non-survivor groups. T1- admission; T2- diagnosis;T3- discharge. P<0.001

We acknowledge the reviewer comments and suggestions very much, which are valuable in improving the quality of our manuscript. We hope by these modifications; we have obtained the respectful reviewers satisfaction.

We thank you all again.

With best regards

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (1)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

REFEREE: Reviewer | **Revision** (1) 15 Sep 2018

Dear AE,
The authors have not digested my comments. Unfortunately, revised statements are not intelligible. For example in abstract: "Platelet count was significantly lower, and PDW was higher in time 2 and 3 as compared to time1 in non-survivor. " Which time?
Also, in Results, "Our data demonstrated that there were statistical significantly difference between admission with time of diagnosis of meningitis, discharge in PLT and PDW level (p:0.007; p:0.001 respectively) in non-survivor patients," I can not understand your point.
So, your manuscript need to be edited by a native speaker at first.
Thanks.

REFEREE: Associate Editor | **Revision** (1) 26 Sep 2018

Dear EIC,
The authors requested to clarify point by point concerns after review. The highlighted potions in the text are non-understandable. the findings in the text do not conform with that in the abstract.
The English language is poor and not non-comprehensible.
Thanks.

REFEREE: EIC | **Revision** (1) 26 Sep 2018

Dear Author,
The reviewers' comments are mentioned. Please correct the details as mentioned above carefully according to reviewers' request.
Thanks.

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (2)

Reply to Reviewers

Ideally, the reviewing process can significantly improve the submitted manuscripts by allowing the authors to take into account the advice of reviewers. Author(s) must reply to all reviewers' comments in a separate Word file, point by point. A "**Reply to Reviewers**" document is submitted along with revised manuscript during submission of revised files, summarizing the changes that the authors made in response to the reviewers' comments. The responses to reviewers' comments specifies how the authors addressed each comment the reviewers made.

You can read the authors' responses to the reviewers' comments in the next page.

Manuscript ID:82911

Journal: Archives of Neuroscience

Dear Prof. Zahid Hussain Khan,

It is our pleasure to have the opportunity to revise our paper, entitled “Use of platelet indices for outcome patients in post neurosurgical meningitis”. In the revised version, the reviewers’ comments and suggestions were considered. Hopefully, these revisions improve our paper for publication in your valuable journal.

With best regards

Responses to Reviewer

Major points:

Q1: *The authors have not digested my comments. Unfortunately, revised statements are not intelligible. For example, in abstract: "Platelet count was significantly lower, and PDW was higher in time 2 and 3 as compare to time1 in non-survivor. " Which time?*
Also, in Results, "Our data demonstrated that there were statistical significantly difference between admission with time of diagnosis of meningitis, discharge in PLT and PDW level (p:0.007; p:0.001 respectively) in non-survivor patients," I cannot understand your point. So, your manuscript need to be edited by a native speaker at first.

Answer to comment 1:

It was done.

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (2)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

REFEREE: Reviewer | **Revision** (2) — 8 Dec 2018

Dear AE,
I reviewed the manuscript again and I think it would be interesting for readers.
Thanks.

REFEREE: Associate Editor | **Revision** (2) — 12 Dec 2018

Dear EIC
Based on the authors' answers to the reviewers' comments, the reviewer(s) have recommended publication.
Kind regards.

REFEREE: EIC | **Revision** (2) — 12 Dec 2018

Dear Author,
The document is reviewed carefully by the reviewers. According to their comments and your revisions as requested, this manuscript is accepted.
Thanks.