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OPEN PEER REVIEW

Plasma CRP-hs and Ferritin Concentration Related to Kidney Injury in Adult Patients with Beta-thalassemia: A Cross-sectional Study in Vietnam

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About this report

This open peer review (OPR) report shows the public comments made on this article during peer review, by the reviewers, the associate editor and the editor-in-chief, for every revision round, together with the authors' replies. Comments appear only with the consent of the people who wrote them. Reviewers who chose to sign their report are named; the others are shown as "Referee". Comments are edited for language only, and confidential remarks to the editors are not included.

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1 Original submission

3 comments · 26 Jun 2023 – 4 Jul 2023

Referee 1 Reviewer

MINOR REVISION 26 Jun 2023

dear EIC,
I appreciate the authors' efforts in conducting this study.
They have investigated plasma CRP-hs and ferritin concentrations as markers of kidney injury in adult patients with beta-thalassemia.
I am adding some minor comments in the hope of improving this manuscript:
In the methods section, the authors should explain the rationale for the study sample size and whether they used tools, a formula, or a census.
I suggest that the authors choose a title that reflects the purpose of the study (as I understand it, investigating several serum markers and related indicators in KI), not only its final result (a possible relationship between CRP-hs and ferritin and KI), although the chosen title is currently correct.
Best Wishes

Associate Editor

MINOR REVISION 4 Jul 2023

Minor revision

Editor-in-Chief

MINOR REVISION 4 Jul 2023

Minor Revision

2

Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Dear Journal and Reviewer,

We would like to thank you for your valuable comments to improve the quality of our manuscript. Here're some of our explanations for these comments:

Reviewer 1: I am adding some minor comments hoping improve this manuscript:

- In the methods part, you should mention the rationale of the study sample size. whether you used tools, formula or census.

In regards to the sample size, since the number of individuals with beta-thalassemia in our hospital is limited, we included all 217 patients who were under observation and receiving treatment during the duration of the study. From this group, we subsequently selected 142 patients who satisfied the specific criteria for inclusion and exclusion. As a result, we did not utilize the standard formula for determining the sample size in this particular study.

- I suggest to the authors to choose a title that shows your purpose (as i figured out it is investigation of several serum markers and indicators related to that in the KI) of the study not only the final result of that (possible relation between CRP-hs and ferritin to KI). (although your chosen title is correct now)

We would like to maintain the current name of the study in this paper since it aligns with our ongoing research on kidney injury in patients with beta-Thalassemia. This will ensure consistency with the tables and figures used in this paper. We kindly request permission to retain the name as it stands.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the journal and reviewer for their generosity and valuable comments to improve our manuscript further. We will receive the reviewers' helpful comments and actively correct our manuscript to meet the journal's requirements.
Sincerely,

2 Revision 1

2 comments · 3 Aug 2023 – 5 Aug 2023

Alireza Soleymanitabar Reviewer

ACCEPT 3 Aug 2023

Dear EIC, Thanks for giving me the opportunity to review this manuscript.
The authors have addressed all suggestions. Thus, there are no further comments.

Associate Editor

ACCEPT 5 Aug 2023

Accept