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

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Peer Review Report for "ANA Should be Performed in Patients Without Previous History of SLE Who Underwent Kidney Biopsy"

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Review Timeline:

Submit Date: 27 Apr 2019
Revised Date: 19 May 2019
Accepted Date: 18 Jun 2019

Revision (0)

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

REFEREE: Associate Editor | **Revision** (0) 10 May 2019

Dear EIC,
The manuscript is reviewed:
- There is an important question: in ANA-negative patients, LN could be ruled out?
- As we know ANA has a positive predictive value for SLE diagnosis. Is the same for LN or not?
Thanks.

REFEREE: EIC | **Revision** (0) 10 May 2019

Dear Author,
Your article is reviewed by the reviewers carefully. According to their comments, this document needs minor 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.

Associate Editor 1:

the manuscript reviewed

there is an important question: in ANA-negative patients, LN could be ruled out?

Reply: No, LN could not be ruled out if ANA is negative. In our study, there were 20% of LN patients had negative results of ANA (Table 1). This issue was addressed in the revision (yellow highlighted).

As we know ANA has a positive predictive value for SLE diagnosis. Is the same for LN or not?

Reply: This study found that the ANA was not a significant predictor for LN in overall (p value 0.18, Table 2). But, it was a significant predictor for LN in those without history of SLE (aOR of 14.5). This issue was addressed in the revision (yellow highlighted).

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Revision (1)

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

REFEREE: Associate Editor | **Revision** (1) 18 Jun 2019

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

REFEREE: EIC | **Revision** (1) 18 Jun 2019

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