



# BAISHIDENG PUBLISHING GROUP INC

8226 Regency Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, United States

Telephone: +1-925-223-8242 Fax: +1-925-223-8243

E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com http://www.wjgnet.com

## ESPS Peer-review Report

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6301

**Title:** Endoscopic treatment of esophageal varices in patients with liver cirrhosis

**Reviewer code:** 00013649

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2013-10-14 21:30

**Date reviewed:** 2013-12-13 02:39

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)		BPG Search:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Major points The review is supported by a high number of articles and the majority of assertions are accompanied by the original numbers coming from the articles published on this issue. This could be very useful for readers. Nevertheless, I suggest quoting those articles that, in the setting of longitudinal cohort studies, have questioned the efficacy of endoscopic therapy in hemodynamic and clinical non-responders to non-selective beta-blockers (NSBBs). Bureau et al. were the first suggesting that in 2002(Hepatology). Recently, in the context of primary prophylaxis Reiberger et al (Gut 2012) have, once again, demonstrated that probably in non-responders to NSBBs the efficacy of endoscopic band ligation (EBL) is limited. These observations are confirmed and further supported also in the context of secondary prophylaxis. Indeed, de Souza et al (Clin Gastroenterol and Hepatology 2012) evidenced that "patients who have their first episode of variceal bleeding while on primary prophylaxis with a  $\beta$ -blocking agent (clinically non-responders to NSBBs) have an increased risk of further bleeding and death, despite adding endoscopic band ligation". This observations could rise an interesting debate, in my opinion, still not sufficiently underlined in the scientific community dedicated to portal hypertension that finally could give originality to the manuscript. Minor points Some information could be revised 1-the cut off of 20mmHg for HVPG is associated to failure to control bleeding, early rebleeding and mortality in the setting of acute variceal bleeding. In order to overcome any confusion for readers I suggest underlining the concept that this cut-off was validated in the setting of acute variceal bleeding 2-In the paragraph titled "EVL versus NSBBs" papers about the comparison of carvedilol vs EBL by Tripathi et al (Hepatology 2009) should be commented 3-In the paragraph titled "endoscopic treatment of acute variceal bleeding" the cut-off of HVPG described in reference 28 is



## BAISHIDENG PUBLISHING GROUP INC

8226 Regency Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, United States

Telephone: +1-925-223-8242 Fax: +1-925-223-8243

E-mail: [bpgoffice@wjgnet.com](mailto:bpgoffice@wjgnet.com) <http://www.wjgnet.com>

---

12mmHg and not 20mmHg



# BAISHIDENG PUBLISHING GROUP INC

8226 Regency Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, United States

Telephone: +1-925-223-8242 Fax: +1-925-223-8243

E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com http://www.wjgnet.com

## ESPS Peer-review Report

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6301

**Title:** Endoscopic treatment of esophageal varices in patients with liver cirrhosis

**Reviewer code:** 00053580

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2013-10-14 21:30

**Date reviewed:** 2013-12-17 08:34

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a very good revision about the theme, discussing even new therapies not well established.



# BAISHIDENG PUBLISHING GROUP INC

8226 Regency Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, United States

Telephone: +1-925-223-8242 Fax: +1-925-223-8243

E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com http://www.wjgnet.com

## ESPS Peer-review Report

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6301

**Title:** Endoscopic treatment of esophageal varices in patients with liver cirrhosis

**Reviewer code:** 00004485

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2013-10-14 21:30

**Date reviewed:** 2013-12-18 00:16

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript, as submitted, is an excellent review of the medical, endoscopic, and interventional approaches for the prevention and treatment of esophageal variceal bleeding. 1. Please see minor grammar suggestions in attached manuscript with tracked changes. 2. The authors fail to mention the application of EUS-directed coil injection into EG varices with or without the addition of cyanoacrylate (see articles by Binmoeller, et al.). Please mention and reference. 3. The authors fail to mention transhepatic embolization of EG junction varices through the portal vein or access to fundal and distal esophageal varices through left renal vein shunts. The latter procedure is used commonly in Japan. Please mention and reference.



# BAISHIDENG PUBLISHING GROUP INC

8226 Regency Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, United States

Telephone: +1-925-223-8242 Fax: +1-925-223-8243

E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com http://www.wjgnet.com

## ESPS Peer-review Report

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6301

**Title:** Endoscopic treatment of esophageal varices in patients with liver cirrhosis

**Reviewer code:** 00503621

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2013-10-14 21:30

**Date reviewed:** 2013-12-19 11:00

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Difficulty reading some parts. Seems likely due to English being a second language. Would benefit from an easier way of conveying informative review. Would need a paragraph on surgical intervention with splenorenal shunt as an example. Need to comment more on Antibiotics and on Statins if talking about non-endoscopic interventions. Need to specify vasoactive drugs in detail. Good topic but needs better detail and make point more clear.



# BAISHIDENG PUBLISHING GROUP INC

8226 Regency Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, United States

Telephone: +1-925-223-8242 Fax: +1-925-223-8243

E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com http://www.wjgnet.com

## ESPS Peer-review Report

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6301

**Title:** Endoscopic treatment of esophageal varices in patients with liver cirrhosis

**Reviewer code:** 00069262

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2013-10-14 21:30

**Date reviewed:** 2013-12-19 12:14

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It is an excellent paper. I believe meets the standards of publication of journals. Is adequately addressed the issue either cirrhosis, esophageal varices and endoscopic treatment. Congratulations



# BAISHIDENG PUBLISHING GROUP INC

8226 Regency Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, United States

Telephone: +1-925-223-8242 Fax: +1-925-223-8243

E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com http://www.wjgnet.com

## ESPS Peer-review Report

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6301

**Title:** Endoscopic treatment of esophageal varices in patients with liver cirrhosis

**Reviewer code:** 02541391

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2013-10-14 21:30

**Date reviewed:** 2013-12-22 01:28

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)		BPG Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Major point: The article is suitable for publication after deeply revising the language and grammar.

Specific comments: Small paragraphs can be dedicated to the role of antibiotic prophylaxis in esophageal variceal bleeding/rebleeding.



**ESPS Peer-review Report**

**Name of Journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6301

**Title:** Endoscopic treatment of esophageal varices in patients with liver cirrhosis

**Reviewer code:** 01805584

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2013-10-14 21:30

**Date reviewed:** 2013-12-24 23:54

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

**COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The manuscript of 'Endoscopic treatment of esophageal varices in patients with liver cirrhosis' summarizes the primary prophylaxis and treatment of variceal bleeding. According to the results, non-selective beta blockers (NSBBs) and endoscopic variceal ligation (EVL) serve as the main strategies for the primary prophylaxis of variceal bleeding. Combination of vasoactive drugs, EVL and antibiotic is the best choice for patients with acute variceal bleeding. Nevertheless, combination of NSBBs and EVL is recommended to be the secondary prophylaxis. This comprehensive description provides a brief overview of the prevention and treatment of fibrosis-related esophageal varices, which will certainly be valuable for the clinical intervention. Major comments 1. This review takes focus on different aspects, mainly primary prophylaxis, secondary prophylaxis, treatment, and complications, of esophageal varices in patients with hepatic fibrosis. These achievements are, I think, familiar to most physicians in gastroenterology and hepatology. However, authors compare endoscopic treatment, especially EVL, with non- endoscopic treatment, such as vasoactive drugs, NSBBs, and Transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt (TIPS), in most part of text. The title of 'Endoscopic treatment of esophageal varices in patients with liver cirrhosis', therefore, may not be a suitable one. Improvement in the title or text is then suggested. Minor comments 1. Annotations next to the title of Table 1-3, such as 'NSBBs: Non-selective b-blockers, NT: no treatment, EVL: endoscopic variceal ligation, OR: odds ratio, CI: confidence intervals' would be better employing as the footnotes. 2. There are some minor mistakes in English expression, for example, 'The available data suggests' (P.12) should be 'available data suggest'.