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Flat C, 23/F., Lucky Plaza,
315-321 Lockhart Road,
Wan Chai, Hong Kong, China

ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Ms: 2355

Title: Expanded polytetrafluoroethylene-covered stent-grafts in the treatment of transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt (TIPS) dysfunction

Reviewer code: 00012506

Science editor: l.l.wen@wjgnet.com

Date sent for review: 2013-02-18 15:35

Date reviewed: 2013-03-08 01:44

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input checked="" 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 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 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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS:

This is an interesting retrospective study that evaluated treatment of TIPS dysfunction with two covered stents, Fluency and Wallgraft stent, in 73 patients. It seems that Fluency stent is slightly more effective than Wallgraft, although not statistically significant, and complications are similar between both stents. Some corrections should be done before suitable for publication: Were Fluency or Wallgraft stent randomly assigned? Show the rates of new encephalopathy, bleeding and mortality and echographic dysfunction at 12 and 24 months, show data in a table with "p". Is a statistically significant difference between patency at 24 and 48 months between the Fluency and Wallgraft stent? Figure 3 should be corrected, a "p" value is necessary and population and cases in the bottom part along time. And "proability free.." should say "probability of remaining free of..." Mention this paper: Wu X, Ding W, Cao J, Fan X, Li J. Clinical outcome using the fluency stent graft for transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt in patients with portal hypertension. The american surgeon 2013 Mar;79(3):305-12.



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Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Ms: 2355

Title: Expanded polytetrafluoroethylene-covered stent-grafts in the treatment of transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt (TIPS) dysfunction

Reviewer code: 02458171

Science editor: l.l.wen@wjgnet.com

Date sent for review: 2013-02-18 15:35

Date reviewed: 2013-03-10 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 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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS:

Dear Authors, Please find below my comments on the manuscript: 1. Abstract content should be supplemented by the information on the statistical significance of the results - (log-rank test, P= .033). 2. I would recommend generating Table 2, with information about comparison of complications between two treatment groups. 3. Grammatical errors in Figure 2 (“opacification” and “perfomed”) and Figure 3 (“probility free”) should be corrected. You have presented very interesting results about the management of transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt dysfunction by a new method. Your experience and the results of the study are very important because they provide an opportunity to improve treatment outcomes. Therefore, information about new treatment method could be shared with doctors from other countries around the world. I congratulate all your team and I wish you success in the future.



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Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Ms: 2355

Title: Expanded polytetrafluoroethylene-covered stent-grafts in the treatment of transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt (TIPS) dysfunction

Reviewer code: 00503401

Science editor: l.l.wen@wjgnet.com

Date sent for review: 2013-02-18 15:35

Date reviewed: 2013-03-12 16:59

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
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<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

COMMENTS

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS:

1) The title does not reflect the message of the manuscript. Consider modification. The title should focus on the main result of the study 2) Since the follow-up of the patients does not exceed 24 months, consider modification of the term the “long-term” to “medium-term” in the text 3) Abstract. - Explain the abbreviation, probably PET means polyethylene terephthalate - In result section the data should be supported by statistics, otherwise conclusion is obscure. 4) Introduction. Provide brief description (several words) of Viatorr stent 5) Text and Table 1. General observation: referring to number of patients always provide the percentage in relation to a group under investigation. 6) Results. - Avoid the term “some patients”, be more precise. - The end of the first paragraph. Last three sentences are confusing, consider revision. - Important: all data and numbers, comparing two groups should be supported by statistics. Avoid the words “better, worse etc.”, provided statistical analysis, so that the readers could make their own conclusions concerning the significance of the data. 7) Discussion. Start with the main finding of your research. Discuss it in relation to existing published articles and after refer to theoretical aspect of the theme. 8) Figure 3. At the bottom of the Kaplan-Meier curve the number of patients on follow-up should be depicted, starting from time point and thereafter for each time-point in months. Also, result of statistical analysis (p-value, 95% CI interval) for the comparison of two curves should be added.



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Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Ms: 2355

Title: Expanded polytetrafluoroethylene-covered stent-grafts in the treatment of transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt (TIPS) dysfunction

Reviewer code: 01560071

Science editor: l.l.wen@wjgnet.com

Date sent for review: 2013-02-18 15:35

Date reviewed: 2013-03-13 10:28

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 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
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COMMENTS

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS:

The authors compared the outcomes after TIPS using two different types of stents, namely Wallgraft and Fluency stents. I understand that the difference of the stent type would remarkably affect the outcomes, and that the data of this study would have some clinical values, considering of the large number of the cases. However, this study has many critical defaults. First of all, no indication to select the two types of the stents was unclear. Second, the authors did not explain the good and weak points of each stent. I cannot understand the reason why the authors conducted this comparative study. Third, the quality of the presented data was low. The relative risks with 95% confidence intervals and P values for stent patency should be provided. In table 1, P values are of course necessary. Lastly, the discussion is vague and too long.



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Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Ms: 2355

Title: Expanded polytetrafluoroethylene-covered stent-grafts in the treatment of transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt (TIPS) dysfunction

Reviewer code: 00047453

Science editor: l.l.wen@wjgnet.com

Date sent for review: 2013-02-18 15:35

Date reviewed: 2013-03-22 09:36

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
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COMMENTS

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS:

Shunt dysfunction and stenosis is a common problem after TIPS placement. This is an interesting and valuable retrospective clinical study dealing with this complication in a significant number of patients (n=73) managed during a period of 4 years, in one center in China. Some questions arise when reading this paper that needs further revision and comments. - I would recommend changing the Title, since this is a retrospective study comparing two different stents (Fluency and Wallgraft) inserted in patients with TIPS dysfunction. - The abstract need "p" value in the comparison of patency rates at 12 and 24 months of follow-up between both stents....add the information of results...page 10..... "Primary shunt patency rates after TIPS revision with Fluency stent in comparison with Wallgraft stent were significantly better (log-rank test, P= .033)". If correct...why the conclusion of the abstract is so "timid" saying..... "Implantation of Fluency stent is effective in patients with dysfunctional TIPS, with relatively higher long-term patency rates compared with Wallgraft stent". - What I should conclude from this study is that "In this retrospective study Fluency stent had a higher median term patency rate when compared to Wallgraft stents"..... - What was the criteria used to decide whether to use Fluency stent or Wallgraft stent? I deduce that it was not in a randomized fashion. There may be a significant bias in the allocation to either stent determining this results..... - Why do authors use aspirin forever?.... I guess most patients are cirrhotics which could be a problem. There is no clear data on the use of aspirine in these patients as far as I know. - Figure 3 needs "p" value comparison (& CI 95%) of both curves



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and data on number of patients followed at different times at the X axis. - Table 1 needs another row with data on "p" value differences (comparison). And mention more details on the primary reason for TIPS insertion (Budd Chiari? ... refractory ascitis?? Hepatic hydrothorax?) - Discussion too long and disorganized. ...please review - Some changes suggested and grammatical errors: o Page 4:Similarly, the encouraging results have been obtained o Page 13: The rates of recurrent bleeding, shunt occlusion, hepatic encephalopathy and mortality were 0.03, 0.0, 16.7 and 0% respectively after 6.16 ± 3.89 months of follow-up o Page 13:.... It says.....However, the role of Wallgafte stent in...should say:should say....However, the role of Wallgraft stent in.... o Page 14 says: ... says.....This study represents one of the largest published case series of patients with dysfunctional TIPS underwent shunt revision with stent-grafts... should say....This study represents one of the largest published case series report of patients with dysfunctional TIPS undergoing shunt revision with stent-grafts.... Congratulations to authors for an interesting experience...