Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases

Manuscript NO: 78739

Title: Elevated procalcitonin levels in the absence of infection in procalcitonin-secretin hepatocellular carcinoma: A case of report

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer’s code: 02936529

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: FRCS (Hon), MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor, Surgical Oncologist

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: Brazil

Author’s Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-07-12

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-07-12 19:27

Reviewer performed review: 2022-07-17 11:16

Review time: 4 Days and 15 Hours

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<th>Scientific quality</th>
<th>Grade A: Excellent</th>
<th>Y</th>
<th>Grade B: Very good</th>
<th>Grade C: Good</th>
<th>Grade D: Fair</th>
<th>Grade E: Do not publish</th>
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<td>Language quality</td>
<td>Grade A: Priority publishing</td>
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<td>Grade D: Rejection</td>
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<td>Conclusion</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
The authors describe a case of patient with HCC (confirmed on pathology and immunohistochemical analyses) with high serum levels of procalcitonin on preoperative work up. This a valuable manuscript because of the rarity of the case, however the authors would provide the preoperative imaging (MRI) and the surgical specimen images. The preoperative imaging series and the macroscopic images of the tumors, perhaps images of the operative field would enrich the case report. The discussion is concise and clear.
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Title: Elevated procalcitonin levels in the absence of infection in procalcitonin-secretin hepatocellular carcinoma: A case of report

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer’s code: 05771605

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: Saudi Arabia

Author’s Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-07-12

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-07-20 03:56

Reviewer performed review: 2022-07-20 04:50

Review time: 1 Hour

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**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This is an interesting case report, however, the cause of sudden fever in the patient has not been evaluated thoroughly. Furthermore, it is important to know if antibiotics were administered pre or post surgery because an undiagnosed infective source may have responded to antibiotics with a subsequent decrease in serum PCT. These points need to be addressed.