07-December-2023

Dear Prof Dr. Salisu

You submitted a manuscript AJGH-2310-1040entitled "Ultrasound Evaluation of Portal Vein Diameter and Its Doppler Hemodynamics in Apparently Healthy Adults In a Tertiary Healthy Adults In Northern Nigeria." to the African Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology.  The reviewer's comments (s) are included at the end of this email.

The reviewers have requested revisions to your manuscript.  Therefore, I invite you to respond to the reviewers' comments and revise your manuscript. Instructions on how to do this can be found at the bottom of this email.

Because we are trying to facilitate the timely publication of manuscripts submitted to the African Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, your revised manuscript should be submitted as soon as possible.

Once again, thank you for submitting your manuscript to the African Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, and I look forward to receiving your revision.

Sincerely,

Salem Y Mohamed

Chief Editor, African Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Please revise your manuscript using a word processing program and save it on your computer.  Please also highlight the changes to your manuscript within the document using the track changes mode in MS Word or using bold or colored text.

Once the revised manuscript is prepared, you can send it to me via email.

When submitting your revised manuscript, please provide your responses and details of changes made to each comment in an Author Response Letter.  To expedite the processing of the revised manuscript, please be as specific as possible in your response to the reviewers.

**Reviewer Comments to Author:**

**Reviewer1: (EE)**

This manuscript discussed ***the Ultrasound Evaluation of Portal Vein Diameter and Its Doppler Hemodynamics in Apparently Healthy Adults In Tertiary Healthy Adults In Northern Nigeria.*** The work is exciting because it discusses an important issue and would help establish reference values for PV parameters in the country of study. We have some comments to improve the quality of the work:

1. **Abstract:**

**- Conclusion**: This study has established reference values for everyday portal VD, PSV, and PI in a Northern Nigerian population with their corresponding relationships based on age, gender, and anthropometric variables……. **The result may help set a reference value for PV parameters as the sample size is small, and the result can’t be generalized as it is only a center study. It didn’t include the whole population of northern Nigeria.**

1. **In the Methodology:**

- **Scanning technique:** “All measurements were taken twice by the same observer, and the average was calculated to enhance the accuracy of the results and reduce interobserver variability (11).:…….**you didn’t refer to how the measurements in this study were taken and how many observers were involved?**

-There were no images for PV Doppler …… Please **provide grayscale and Doppler images.**

1. **Discussion:**

-Paragraph 1: The caliber of the standard portal vein diameter has been extensively studied across different ages, sex, race, and populations (1 ss&s 6) …..(1 ss&s 6 )….? **Please explain this.**

**D) Conclusion:** This study has established the baseline values for normal ranges of portal vein diameter, peak systolic velocity, and pulsatility index in a Nothern Nigerian population to be 11.15±1.81mm, 22.19±7.08cm/s and 0.59±0.57 respectively and also found a weak negative correlation between pulsatility index and portal vein diameter, age & body mass index. Limitations: Employment of small sample size with dependency on a single observer, which might lead to inter-observer or instrumental bias…**. The result may help set a reference value for PV parameters as the sample size is small, and the result can’t be generalized as it is only a center study. It didn’t include the whole population of northern Nigeria.**

1. **In the manuscript writing:**
* The English language of the manuscript needs revision.
* **In the methods section**, the authors should write about how the measurements in this study were taken and how many observers were involved**.**
* **-In the Limitation section,** employing a small sample size dependent on a single observer might lead to inter-observer or instrumental bias. ……**how comes inter-observer bias, and you stated that there was only one observer?**

**Reviewer 2: (MA)**

1- Regarding the title of the manuscript, what do you mean by tertiary healthy adult? It is better to change to a more informative one.
2- Many of your patients were obese. Did you exclude the presence of NAFLD and the other component of metabolic syndrome that could affect the results (for example, DM, hypertension, and other comorbidity like myeloproliferative diseases? Also, there is no comment on the liver size.
3- It is better to classify your patients according to BMI and to compare the studied parameters in these groups before doing the correlation
4- Please note that table 4 needs to be revised, and the units used should be written.

**Reviewer3: (EF)**

accept

**Check the uploaded file.**

**Reviewer3: (HS)**

**accept**

‎**Editor Comments to Author:**

1. Please check the author names and affiliations included on your Title Page, mainly that the spelling of all authors' names is correct. They are cited in the order you wish them to appear in the final article. In addition, each author's affiliation details are correct.

2. Please include a 'Structured Abstract': not more than 250 words, broken down into, i.e., Aims, Patients & Methods/Materials & Methods, Results, and Conclusions. For authors presenting the results of clinical trials, the guidelines recommended by CONSORT should be followed when writing the abstract (http://www.consort-statement.org/), and the clinical trial registration number should be included at the end of the abstract, where available.

3. Please include up to 10 keywords in your revised manuscript (including the four keywords you selected as part of the submission process).

4. Please amend the references as per the author's guidelines:

a. References should be numerically listed in the reference section in the order they occur in the text.

b. References should appear as a number, i.e., [1, 2] in the text.

c. References should cite three authors et al.: It is our house style to list a maximum of six authors, and if there is more than this, three authors et al.

5. Please ensure all tables and boxes are titled and cited in the text. Three-line tables are preferred.

Please find a link to the African Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology Author Guidelines, which explains these sections in more detail: <https://ajgh.journals.ekb.eg/journal/authors.note>.

6. Please check the PDF file of your manuscript regarding plagiarism checking.

7. Please add the scale bar, annotations, magnifications, and program that generated these figures. Also, it is better to submit figures with high resolution and brightness.