

Review of: "Biliary Complications Following Liver Transplantation: The First Single-Center Tunisian Experience"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Reviewer's comment

I want to congratulate the authors of the manuscript for researching such an important topic that has been a thorn in the flesh of most transplant surgeons and hepatologists alike. It is very good work, but I have a few comments.

General comments

There is a need for the authors to get a native English speaker to review the manuscript, which will reduce both typographical and grammatical oversights.

Specific comments

Introduction

The introduction section of the manuscript is too short. Maybe the authors should include a brief history of liver transplantation in Africa, the Middle East, and the world.

There is also a need to briefly highlight the burden of biliary complications after liver transplantation. A paragraph dedicated to risk factors for biliary complications after liver transplantation will also improve the introduction section.

Methods

Why do the authors use 30 days as the cutoff for early complications? Most of the literature uses 3 months as a cutoff for early biliary complications. I refer the authors to the manuscript by Berchtold et al (<https://doi.org/10.1111/petr.14075>).

Data collection should be explained better. What was the instrument of data collection?

There is a need for the authors to comment on ethical approval in this section.

Results

Before the outcome data is reported, the sociodemographic characteristics of the patients should be reported first.

As part of the treatment of biliary stricture, the authors mentioned Ganciclovir for a cytomegalovirus infection. Was that the only treatment the patient received?

The preop data, perop data, and postop data reported need to be clear. Were these data found in all patients or just patients with biliary complications?

The risk factors reported in the results were found after univariate analysis. Is that standard? In your methodology, you intended to perform multivariate analysis. Was there a reason it wasn't performed?

Discussion

Were there similar studies in Africa and the Middle East?