



Re: Does Monocyte Distribution Width (MDW) Have Prognostic Value in Acute Pancreatitis?

Yanıt: Monosit Dağılım Genişliği (MDW) Akut Pankreatitte Prognostik Değere Sahip mi?

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Dear Editor,

We have read the article titled "Does Monocyte Distribution Width (MDW) Have Prognostic Value in Acute Pancreatitis?" published by Senlikci et al. with great interest.^[1] We thank the authors for this informative and successful manuscript. We also would like to mention a few important points about the interpretation of the statistical tests performed in the study.

In statistical analysis, first, patients were grouped as mild acute pancreatitis and moderate or severe acute pancreatitis, and nonparametric comparison tests were used to determine the relationship between MDW and severity of acute pancreatitis. MDW was significantly higher in the patients with mild acute pancreatitis than the patients with moderate or severe acute pancreatitis. A further analysis was performed based on the ROC curve to determine the MDW's ability to differentiate cases of mild pancreatitis from moderate and severe pancreatitis. AUC value < 0.5 was evaluated as indistinguishable from random, while those close to 1 were considered close to the perfect predictor.^[2,3] It has been reported that the AUC value should be > 0.8 for a model to predict mortality well.^[2,3] In the discriminatory power analysis, authors determined the AUC value of MDW as 0.618, which was considered to be unacceptable. Although MDW was significantly higher in the patients with mild acute pancreatitis than the patients with moderate or severe acute pancreatitis, MDW's ability to differentiate cases of mild pancreatitis from moderate and severe pancreatitis is

close to random. Thus, we think that according to results of Senlikci et al.'s study, MDW haven't prognostic value in acute pancreatitis.

Keywords: Acute pancreatitis, monocyte distribution width, prognosis

ETHICAL DECLARATIONS

Referee Evaluation Process: Externally peer-reviewed.

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