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Comment on: Triglyceride-to-HDL cholesterol ratio: Predictive value for CHD severity and new-onset heart failure

Original article

Yunke Z, Guoping L, Zhenyue C (2013) Triglyceride-to-HDL cholesterol ratio: predictive value for CHD severity and new-onset heart failure. Herz. doi:10.1007/s00059-013-3788-0

To the Editor

We read the article “Triglyceride-to-HDL cholesterol ratio: Predictive value for CHD severity and new-onset heart failure” by Yunke et al. [1]. The authors have used the Gensini score [2], which is a meaningful scoring system for determining the severity of coronary heart disease (CHD). The Gensini score is calculated by multiplying the severity coefficient by the coefficient identified based on the functional importance of the myocardial area supplied by that segment. However, the Gensini score has not been validated for the severity of CHD that is required for revascularization. Currently, the SYNTAX score [3] has replaced the Gensini score for this aim. Higher SYNTAX scores, indicative of a more complex condition, represent a bigger therapeutic challenge and are associated with a worse prognosis.

If the CHD group had been divided into two groups according to revascularization requirement (SYNTAX group or Gensini group), the trial results would be more satisfying for us.

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Reply

C. Zhenyue

Thank you for your advice. We tried to add SYNTAX scores into our database to regroup patients after receiving your comment. However, since the SYNTAX scoring system was not introduced in our hospital when we started our study, some adverse characteristics such as bifurcations, trifurcations, and length of stenosis, which are necessary in SYNTAX scoring, were not recorded for most patients during 2010–2011. We regret that without these characteristics, we could not calculate the SYNTAX score correctly for these patients, who formed the main part of our study population.

We will consider introducing the SYNTAX score in our future study.

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