Accuracy and applicability of the revised WHO classification (2009) of dengue

V. Wiwanitkit

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Sir, the recent report on “Accuracy and applicability of the revised WHO classification (2009) of dengue” is very interesting [1]. Prasad et al. [1] concluded that “The revised WHO/TDR (2009) classification has very high sensitivity for identifying severe dengue and is easy to apply”. Indeed, the classification is exactly useful for grouping of the patient for further management [2]. However, whether the classification is useful for predicting of severity and outcome is still controversial. Indeed, any clinical presentations as well as the important laboratory findings (especially for platelet count and hematocrit) are reported for be useless predictors [3]. A recent report by Premaratna et al. [4] also showed that the present recommended predictors of dengue were limited. In patients who received fluid replacement therapy, the closed observation to monitor the clinical change is still needed [5]. Finally, although the new classification can be applicable, this does not mean the classification is easy. There are many parameters to be collected and this might take time. In some cases, urgent management might be required rather than waiting for the complete classification.

Conflict of interest None.

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V. Wiwanitkit
Hainan Medical University, Haikou, China

V. Wiwanitkit
Faculty of Medicine, University of Nis, Nis, Serbia

V. Wiwanitkit (✉)
Wiwanitkit House, Bangkhuae, Bangkok, Thailand
e-mail: wviroj@yahoo.com