Reviewer's report

Title: Sexual function in men with end-stage liver disease improves after living donor liver transplantation

Version: 2

Date: 19 February 2015

Reviewer: Jacques Klein

Reviewer's report:

Interesting study evaluating sexual function in patients with end stage liver disease treated by living donor liver transplantation.

However some revisions are necessary:

Major Compulsory Revisions:
- IIEF-5 score evaluates erectile function and not complete sexual function => To change in manuscript title
- No clear definition of inclusion and exclusion criteria.
- Please mention the reason of loss of follow-up after transplantation for 2 patients
- Questionnaires were completed by patients with medical help “at least six month” after transplantation => Please give more details of exact time knowing that sexual function improves during the first 6 months after transplantation and remains stable (cf Klein et al.)
- Table 2 should show results before AND after transplantation for comparaison
- Table 3 is missing
- Mention scores of ADAM questionnaire before and after transplantation
- Mention p-value of correlation between ADAM and IIEF-score
- Authors cannot conclude that improvement of erectile function is mainly hormone related, without evaluating other contributing factors especially that ADAM questionnaire has a lack of specificity
- Worsened erectile function in 7 patients can’t be explained by the short follow-up knowing that after 6 months and normal liver function there are no significant changes in sexual function in liver transplanted patients

Minor Essential Revisions:
- The authors are using the ADAM questionnaire to evaluate hypogonadism in patients. However this questionnaire has a lack of specificity and should be mentioned in details in the manuscript.
- Several studies with greater case hold showed already improvement of sexual function after liver transplantation including living donor transplantations as soon as normal liver function is reached.
To better illustrate evaluation of sexual function and hypogonadism figures would be useful.

- Compare results of associated factors with post-transplant dysfunction with existing literature.

- Please explain why 7 patients reported worsened erectile function after transplantation especially due to significance of these results (p = 0.001).

- References are incomplete => Some major studies evaluating sexual function and endocrine status after liver transplantation are missing (Madersbacher et al, Burra et al, Klein et al. Durazzo et al, Huyghe et al.)

- Please extend conclusion

Discretionary Revisions:

- To evaluate the complete sexual function in men authors should use the complete IIEF questionnaire which allows the assessment of all aspects of sexual function including erectile function, orgasmic function, sexual desire, intercourse satisfaction and overall satisfaction).

Publications with greater case hold use this score and comparison with the current literature would be easier.

- Evaluation of alcohol consumption, smoking, and psychological disorders should have been evaluated knowing that these are risk factors for male sexual dysfunctions

- Immunosuppression should be mentioned and if possible correlated with sexual function (especially in case of corticosteroids intake)

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests