



Letter to the editor

Heat shock protein 27 acts as a predictor of prognosis in chronic heart failure patients: Methodological issues

Dear Editor,

We were interested to read the article “Heat shock protein 27 acts as a predictor of prognosis in chronic heart failure patients” authored by Traxler and colleagues published in the Clinica Chimica Acta recently [1]. The results provide evidences that the Heat shock proteins (HSP27) is an independent predictor of prognosis in chronic heart failure [1], however, some methodological issues should be noticed.

In this study, except HSP27, logNT-proBNP and NYHA functional class were both have prognostic value in chronic heart failure patients in the univariate and multivariate analysis. However, the three independent predictors were not compared by the authors to declare which one was better. The ROC curve may be a good statistical method.

The authors mentioned that HSP27 is an independent predictor of prognosis in chronic heart failure. The prediction models need to be validated through using some appropriate methods such as cross-validation and bootstrapping, otherwise, these results would be optimistic interpretation. Correcting optimism problem in study with small sample size has been more emphasized [2].

Acknowledgment

None.

Conflicts of interest

None.

References

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Jie Weng^a, He Wu^a, Zhiyi Wang^{a,b,*}^a Department of Emergency Medicine, The Second Affiliated Hospital and Yuying Children's Hospital of Wenzhou Medical University, Wenzhou 325000, China^b Department of General Practice, The Second Affiliated Hospital and Yuying Children's Hospital of Wenzhou Medical University, Wenzhou 325000, China
E-mail address: wzy1063@126.com

* Corresponding author at: Department of Emergency Medicine, The Second Affiliated Hospital and Yuying Children's Hospital of Wenzhou Medical University, Wenzhou 325000, China.

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