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Letter to the Editor

Urine osteopontin: A biomarker for diagnosis of nephrolithiasis?

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Dear Editor,

We read the article entitled “Can urine osteopontin levels, which may be correlated with nutrition intake and body composition, be used as a new biomarker in the diagnosis of nephrolithiasis?” published in your esteemed journal by Icer MA, Gezmen-Karadag M, Sozen S [1]. We personally feel that, in this study, the volunteers are seemed to be as biased selection i.e. 44 cases in both patients and healthy group with the same number of males (29) and females (15). In a case-control study, there are rare chances of the same number of patients of either gender. If it is a random selection, then the authors should mention the selection criteria. Moreover, the sample size was very small, so osteopontin can't be a biomarker based on their observations.

Other than this, the authors mentioned ‘quarter by quarter’ in Laboratory assessments' and in Table-3, they mentioned it by the term ‘quartile’. The authors should clear whether it is quarter or quartile.

In the next line, the authors mentioned (1st quarter, ≤1,1225; 2nd quarter: 1,1225-1,3450). Actually, 2nd quarter should be valued from 1,1226–1,3450 because 1st quarter valued is equal to and < 1,1225.

In Table 2, the authors gave the value of potassium in mg/dl, in fact, it should be in mEq/L. mEq/L is a universal unit for electrolytes like sodium, potassium, chloride.

In conclusion, the authors should clear all of these observations.

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None.

Conflict of interest

None.

Reference

[1] M.A. Icer, M. Gezmen-Karadag, S. Sozen, Can urine osteopontin levels, which may be correlated with nutrition intake and body composition, be used as a new biomarker in the diagnosis of nephrolithiasis? Clin. Biochem. (2018), https://doi.org/10.1016/j.clinbiochem.2018.08.001.

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