



## Letter to the Editor

**Letter to the Editors in regard to the article “Predictive score for oral corticosteroid-induced initial worsening of seropositive generalized myasthenia gravis”**


Dear Editor,

We read with interest the article by Kanai et al. [1] published in January 2019 issue of The Journal of Neurological Sciences entitled “Predictive score for oral corticosteroid-induced initial worsening of seropositive generalized myasthenia gravis”. Authors reported that steroid-induced initial worsening of myasthenia gravis (MG) symptoms was correlated with thymomatous MG or early onset (onset age < 50 years) non-thymomatous MG ( $p = .018$ ) in the abstract section. A similar statement was made in the beginning paragraph of the result section entitled “Predictive score for initial worsening risk”, with a reference to Table 1. However, information outlined in Table 1 suggested contradictory results. Table 1 indicated a lack of association between corticosteroid-induced initial worsening and early onset MG ( $p = .487$ ), but a possible association between the initial worsening and late onset MG ( $p = .008$ ) or thymoma-associated MG ( $p = .018$ ). Further explanation of above contradicting results and perhaps correction are needed. The proposed scoring system for a prediction of corticosteroid-induced worsening may need to be re-examined. Also in Table 1, authors reported a total of 46 patients who showed no initial worsening. However, the MGFA classification outlined 42 patients in class II, 6 patients in class III, and 2 patients in class IV, giving a total of 50 patients. A clarification of this discrepancy and redo-statistical analysis are needed.

**Ethical publication statement**

We confirm that we have read the Journal's position on issues involved in ethical publication and affirm that this report is consistent with those guidelines.

**Declaration of Competing Interest**

None.

**Acknowledgement**

None.

**References**

- [1] T. Kanai, A. Uzawa, N. Kawaguchi, F. Oda, Y. Ozawa, K. Himuro, S. Kuwabara, Predictive score for oral corticosteroid-induced initial worsening of seropositive generalized myasthenia gravis, *J. Neurol. Sci.* 396 (2019 Jan 15) 8–11.

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