

Reply to: Insulin resistance and chronic hepatitis C in non-diabetic patients

Resposta para: Resistência à insulina e hepatite crônica em pacientes não diabéticos

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We appreciate the interest of Dr. Wiwanitkit in our article recently published in *Journal of the Brazilian Society of Endocrinology and Metabology*. According to the study results, chronic hepatitis C patients with insulin resistance (HOMA IR > 2.5) had more advanced HCV – related liver fibrosis (1). One of the issues considered by Dr. Wiwanitkit is that our results may have been influenced by the other liver diseases. However, as described in the methods section, previous antiviral treatment, co-infection with HBV or HIV, chronic renal disease, DM2, decompensated liver cirrhosis, hepatocellular carcinoma, and alcohol intake above 20 g ethanol/d were exclusion criteria. The second question issue raised by him, is that although the fact that it was an observational study, data were submitted to statistical analysis (univariate analysis) and results were considered statistically significant when $p < 0.05$. Therefore, we found possible to conclude that there was an association between IR and HCV-induced liver fibrosis. We did not analyze in our study whether insulin resistance was independently associated with HCV-induced liver fibrosis.

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