

Paper: “Correlation of OPG/RANKL in patients with thalassemia major at the center of Haemoglobinopathy Lushnje, Albania”

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Peer review:

Reviewer 1: Parham Khanmokhtari
Georgian National University SEU, Georgia

Reviewer 2: Yaser Adnan Abo Jeesh
Faculty of Medicine, University of Gezira – Sudan

Reviewer A:

Recommendation: Revisions Required

The TITLE is clear and it is adequate to the content of the article.

The title “Correlation of OPG/RANKL in Patients with Thalassemia Major in the Center of Haemoglobinopathy Lushnje, Albania” effectively conveys the study’s focus on the relationship between OPG and RANKL in thalassemia patients.

The ABSTRACT clearly presents objects, methods, and results.

The abstract summarizes the study’s purpose, patient population, and key findings. This is relevant information, but additional clarity is needed.

There are a few grammatical errors and spelling mistakes in this article.

The article does not specify any grammatical errors.

The study METHODS are explained clearly.

The methods section describes the study design, patient inclusion criteria, blood collection, BMD measurement, and biochemical markers. It lacks specific details on the measurement techniques for biochemical markers.

The body of the paper is clear and does not contain errors.

The authors introduce the study’s context, emphasizing the significance of osteoporosis in thalassemia patients. Details about the 90 patients with β -thalassemia major and the 67 healthy controls are provided.

The inclusion criteria, patient characteristics, and control group selection are explained. The study explores correlations between OPG/RANKL levels and BMD. A negative correlation between OPG and BMD and a positive correlation with T-score is discussed.

Patients with osteopenia/osteoporosis are found to have lower OPG levels and OPG/RANKL ratio.

The authors compare their findings with other research studies.

Discrepancies or agreements with previous literature are highlighted.

The CONCLUSION or summary is accurate and supported by the content.

The conclusion effectively ties back to the study’s findings, emphasizing the role of OPG/RANKL in osteoclast activation.

The list of REFERENCES is comprehensive and appropriate.

The references provide relevant literature on thalassemia, bone health, and OPG/RANKL. They support the study's context.

Please rate the TITLE of this paper.

[Poor] 1-5 [Excellent]

4

Please rate the ABSTRACT of this paper.

[Poor] 1-5 [Excellent]

4

Please rate the LANGUAGE of this paper.

[Poor] 1-5 [Excellent]

5

Please rate the METHODS of this paper.

[Poor] 1-5 [Excellent]

3

Please rate the BODY of this paper.

[Poor] 1-5 [Excellent]

4

Please rate the CONCLUSION of this paper.

[Poor] 1-5 [Excellent]

5

Please rate the REFERENCES of this paper.

[Poor] 1-5 [Excellent]

4

Overall Recommendation!!!

Accepted, minor revision needed

Comments and Suggestions to the Author(s):

Please Consider providing a brief overview of thalassemia and its impact on bone health. Clarify the rationale for selecting 90 patients with β -thalassemia major and 67 healthy controls. Provide more details on the negative correlation between OPG and BMD ($r = -0.768$; $p = 0.000$).

Explain the implications of the positive correlation between OPG and T-score ($r = 0.729$; $p = 0.000$). Emphasize the clinical significance of using OPG/RANKL as a screening marker for osteoporosis.

Reviewer D:

Recommendation: Revisions Required

The TITLE is clear and it is adequate to the content of the article.

it could be slightly improved for clarity and conciseness.

The ABSTRACT clearly presents objects, methods, and results.

It could benefit from providing more specific numerical data or percentages to give readers a clearer understanding of the results. Additionally, it could briefly mention the conclusion drawn from the results to provide a more complete picture.

There are a few grammatical errors and spelling mistakes in this article.

There are some grammatical errors and spelling mistakes in the article.

The study METHODS are explained clearly.

The methods section provides a clear overview of how the data was collected, analyzed, and measured, allowing readers to understand the study's approach and procedures.

The body of the paper is clear and does not contain errors.

There are some grammatical errors, spelling mistakes, and areas where clarity could be improved. Here are a few examples:

Grammar and Clarity:

"During the last decade, the presence of osteopenia and osteoporosis in well-treated thalassaemics has been described in different studies with high prevalence up to 50%" could be clearer with rephrasing, perhaps: "Over the last decade, studies have described a high prevalence of osteopenia and osteoporosis in well-treated thalasseemics, reaching up to 50%."

"Comparisons of major cytokines related to the regulation of bone resorption between patients with thalassemia major and healthy controls were presented in table 1" could be clarified by specifying which cytokines were compared.

Spelling and Typographical Errors:

"Date analysis" should be "Data analysis."

"Serum osteoprotegerim (OPG)" should be "Serum osteoprotegerin (OPG)."

"Serum RANKL were higher in β -thalassemia" should be "Serum RANKL levels were higher in β -thalassemia."

"Analyzing our dates" should be "Analyzing our data."

"Comparisons OPG/RANKL" should be "Comparisons of OPG/RANKL."

"Analyzing our dates, the value of OPG and RANKL cytokines" should be "Upon analyzing our data, the levels of OPG and RANKL cytokines were observed."

Consistency:

Ensure consistency in the use of abbreviations and terminology throughout the paper. For instance, use "BMD" consistently instead of switching between "bone mineral density" and "BMD."

Addressing these issues would enhance the clarity and professionalism of the paper.

The CONCLUSION or summary is accurate and supported by the content.

Yes, the conclusion accurately summarizes the findings of the study and is supported by the content presented in the paper.

The list of REFERENCES is comprehensive and appropriate.

The list of references appears comprehensive and relevant to the topic of the study, covering a range of studies related to thalassemia, osteoporosis, bone health, and the OPG/RANKL pathway. However, there are a few areas that could be improved:

Consistency in Formatting: Ensure consistency in the formatting of references throughout the list. For example, some references include volume and issue numbers

for journals, while others do not. Consistent formatting adds to the professional appearance of the paper.

In-text Citations: Double-check that all references cited in the paper are included in the reference list, and vice versa. Ensure that the citation style used in the paper matches the formatting of the reference list.

Accuracy of Details: Review each reference to ensure accuracy in details such as author names, journal titles, publication years, and page numbers. Accuracy is essential for providing proper credit to the original sources and for readers who may want to locate the cited works.

The provided references are not written strictly according to APA style.

Please rate the TITLE of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

4

Please rate the ABSTRACT of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

4

Please rate the LANGUAGE of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

3

Please rate the METHODS of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

4

Please rate the BODY of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

4

Please rate the CONCLUSION of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

5

Please rate the REFERENCES of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

4

Overall Recommendation!!!

Accepted, minor revision needed

Comments and Suggestions to the Author(s):

Here are some comments and suggestions for the authors:

Clarity and Structure: Please, consider breaking down some sections into smaller subsections for better organization and readability.

Grammar and Spelling: There are several grammatical errors and spelling mistakes throughout the paper. It's essential to thoroughly proofread the manuscript to correct these errors and enhance the overall professionalism of the writing.

APA Style Formatting: Ensure that all references are formatted consistently according to APA style guidelines.
