LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter to the Editor Regarding First Admission Neutrophil–Lymphocyte Ratio and Ischemic Stroke

Rujittika Mungmunpuntipantip, Ph.D.[1]* and Viroj Wiwanitkit, M.D.[2]

[1]Private Academic Consultant, Bangkok, Thailand; and [2]Honorary Professor, Department of Community Medicine, D. Y. Patil University, Pune, India

TO THE EDITOR

We would like to share with you our thoughts on "First Admission Neutrophil–Lymphocyte Ratio May Indicate Acute Prognosis of Ischemic Stroke."[1]

In the conclusion of their abstract, Alpua et al. state that "first admission NLR [neutrophil–lymphocyte ratio] can be used for acute prognosis of ischemic stroke."[1] We agree that NLR might be useful. However, it is also necessary to be concerned about quality control and test variability. The neutrophil and lymphocyte values received from different types of automated hematological analyzers may differ,[2] hence precision analysis of the analyzer being used is necessary. There are also many possible confounding conditions that can result in aberration of either neutrophil or lymphocyte values. This is a main limitation for using NLR as a biomarker in laboratory medicine.[3]

REFERENCES

1. Alpua M, Say B, Yardimci I, Ergün U, Kisa U, Ceylan OD. First admission neutrophil–lymphocyte ratio may indicate acute prognosis of ischemic stroke. Rambam Maimonides Med J 2021;12:e0021. CrossRef
2. Buttarello M, Gadotti M, Lorenz C, et al. Evaluation of four automated hematology analyzers. A comparative study of differential counts (imprecision and inaccuracy). Am J Clin Pathol 1992;97:345–52. CrossRef
3. Wiwanitkit V. Share NLR as predictor: a concern in laboratory medicine aspect. Int J Colorectal Dis 2011;26:1499. CrossRef

Abbreviations: NLR, neutrophil-lymphocyte ratio.

Citation: Mungmunpuntipantip R, Wiwanitkit V. Letter to the Editor Regarding First Admission Neutrophil–Lymphocyte Ratio and Ischemic Stroke. Rambam Maimonides Med J 2021;12 (4):e0035. doi:10.5041/RMMJ.10456

Key Words: Ischemic stroke, laboratory, neutrophil–lymphocyte ratio

Conflict of interest: No potential conflict of interest relevant to this article was reported.

* To whom correspondence should be addressed. **E-mail:** rujittika@gmail.com