

Comment on “Comparison of neutrophil lymphocyte ratio, platelet lymphocyte ratio and mean platelet volume and PCR test in Covid-19 patients”

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Dear Editor,

We read with pleasure the article by Ozsari et al.¹, on the association between lymphocyte ratio (NLR), platelet lymphocyte ratio (PLR), and mean platelet volume (MPV) levels and PCR test results and thorax tomography (CT) findings in Covid-19 patients. The Covid-19 disease is a pandemic that affects the whole world and causes many deaths. Early diagnosis and start early treatment was very important to prevent deaths due to the Covid-19 disease. PCR test, CT findings, NLR, and acute phase reactants are used in the diagnosis of Covid-19 disease. In this manuscript, the authors assessed the diagnostic value of NLR, PLR, and MPV according to PCR test and CT findings. This cross-sectional study provided varied significant outcomes. For this aim of analysis, we congratulate the authors, and we want to discourse some subjects that deserve more interest.

The diagnostic and prognostic importance of NLR and PLR in Covid-19 patients has been reported in various studies^{2,3}.

Recently studies have reported that the diagnostic value of NLR and PLR is not certain⁴. However, discordance in PCR test results and CT findings were not mentioned in these studies. In this context, this study is very valuable. On the other hand, we want to mention that; it is not reported that patients who are negative for PCR become positive or remain negative in their repeated tests. The interpretation that the inflammation was severe in the CT positive-PCR negative group was somewhat ambitious. There is no data that the PCR test is negative due to the severity of inflammation. We think that this negativity is due to the sensitivity and specificity of the PCT test.

Consequently, as in this study, hemogram parameters such as NLR and PLR are valuable markers in the diagnosis of Covid-19^{2,3}. However, more studies are needed for the relationship between hemogram parameters and PCR test and CT findings.

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