

Letter to the Editor

Mean platelet volume in retinal vein occlusions

Dear Editor,

I read with interest the article by Örnek et al¹. In their study they demonstrated that mean platelet volume (MPV) was significantly lower in patients with retinal vein occlusion (RVO) compared to those of healthy control subjects. Besides they concluded that MPV cannot be used as a potentially useful biomarker for prediction of RVO. However, I have some comments with regard to this publication.

Several risk factors such as age, smoking, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, hyperlipidemia, and glaucoma were attributed in the etiology of RVO. In their study Ornek et al¹ did not exclude patients with smoking. Moreover the number of participants who had hypertension in each group was significantly different (25 vs 9). This may also affect the statistical analyses as well as the results of the current study. A very recent study of Güven et al² demonstrated that the MPV was significantly higher in masked hypertensive and essential hypertensive patients than those of normotensive control subjects. The authors should also consider this issue in the comparison of the MPV measurements.

On the other hand, the unexpected result of the current study was the lower MPV levels in patients with RVO. We recently demonstrated that MPV values were significantly higher in patients with RVO³. Moreover logistic regression analysis revealed that increased MPV was an independent risk factor for the development of RVO. Önder et al⁴ also reported the increased levels of MPV in hypertensive patients with branch RVO. Previously, higher levels of MPV were reported in vascular occlusive diseases such as deep venous thrombosis, stroke, and coronary artery disease^{5,6}. I suggest that all of these vascular disorders might have similar mechanism. Thus, MPV may be a helpful diagnostic marker in these vascular occlusive disorders as well as RVOs.

Conflict of Interest

The Author declares that he has no conflict of interests.

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