Comment on Triplex Sonographic Evaluation of Portal Vein Indices among Adults in Port Harcourt, Nigeria

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Dear Editor,

In July-September 2022 issue of the esteemed Journal of Medical Ultrasound, Aderibigbe et al.[1] nicely established the sonographic reference values (RVs) of portal vein (PV) diameter, cross-sectional area, and mean flow velocity for healthy Nigerian adults. Aderibigbe et al.[1] addressed the study limitation of intraobserver and interobserver variability as the ultrasonography is mainly operator dependent. We additionally present the following methodological limitation. Apart from the determinants of age and gender, studies have shown that ethnicity is a crucial element in determining the dimensions of different body structures, [2-5] and ethnicity-specific RVs should be considered in a given multiethnic population to better assess clinical status, guide a proper therapeutic action, and improve health care in patients with diseases involving the PV. Though Nigeria is a multiethnic country, Aderibigbe et al.[1] did not take into account in the study methodology the ethnic origins of the studied cohort. This limitation could further preclude the bedside applicability of the sonographic RVs of PV parameters generated by Aderibigbe et al.[1]

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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