

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-52152

Date: 10/06/2025

Title: STUDY OF CORRELATION OF SMOKING IN CAUSATION, SEVERITY AND PROGNOSIS OF ACUTE PANCREATITIS

Recommendation:

- ✓ Accept as it is
- Accept after minor revision.....
- Accept after major revision
- Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity		✓		
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Dr. S. K. Nath

Date: 11/06/2025

Reviewer's Comment for Publication:

The study underscores the potential role of smoking as a modifiable risk factor in the development and severity of acute pancreatitis. It demonstrates that patients with a history of smoking tend to have higher severity scores, although the study did not establish a direct correlation between smoking status and disease severity using APACHE II scores. The findings support the necessity for clinicians to consider smoking cessation counseling as part of management and prevention strategies. However, due to limitations like small sample size, retrospective design, and limited follow-up, these results should be interpreted with caution. Larger, prospective studies with multivariate analyses are needed to conclusively establish the role of smoking in acute pancreatitis severity and prognosis.

Reviewer's Comment / Report

Strengths

- Clear Objective and Focus:** The study explicitly aims to investigate the relationship between smoking (current and former) and the causation, severity, and prognosis of acute pancreatitis, addressing an important and modifiable risk factor.
- Use of Standardized Severity and Prognostic Scores:** The utilization of APACHE II, Ranson's score, and Balthazar CT severity scoring enhances the reliability and comparability of findings related to disease severity and prognosis.
- Comprehensive Data Collection:** The study includes diverse clinical parameters — demographic details, clinical presentation, diagnostic investigations, and follow-up outcomes — which provide a holistic view.
- Inclusion of Radiological and Laboratory Assessments:** The combination of clinical, biochemical, and radiological data (ultrasound, CT, MRCP) improves diagnostic accuracy.
- Relevance to Public Health:** The study highlights smoking as a potential risk factor, emphasizing the importance of behavioral modification in disease prevention.

Weaknesses

- Small Sample Size:** With only 50 patients, the sample size limits the generalizability of the findings and may lack statistical power to detect subtle associations.
- Limited Follow-up Data:** Follow-up was available for just 20 patients (40%), which could introduce bias and affect assessment of long-term outcomes.
- Confounding Factors Not Fully Adjusted:** While the study mentions confounders like age and alcohol use, it does not detail multivariate analysis or adjustments to control for these factors, which can influence the observed associations.

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4. **Retrospective Design:** Retrospective data collection is vulnerable to missing data, recall bias (especially regarding smoking history), and lack of temporal causality.
5. **Lack of Control Group:** The absence of a non-pancreatitis control group limits comparisons regarding the true risk attributable to smoking.
6. **No Clear Statistical Analysis Details:** The report mentions correlation coefficients and descriptive statistics but lacks in-depth statistical tests to support associations.