Reply to Comment on Shear-wave Elastography of Palatine Tonsils: A Normative Study in Children

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Močnik and Marčun Varda have competently summarized the areas of shear-wave elastography (SWE) use in their compilation published very recently (July 2023). As can be seen here, ethnicity/race is generally not taken into account in studies related to this examination examining tissue elasticity.[1]

A few studies using SWE and considering the ethnicity/race parameter aimed to compare arterial wall stiffness between races (Hispanic-white European-African), emphasizing that the risk of atherosclerosis varies between races in previous studies formed the scientific basis for these SWE studies.[2]

There are publications by us and other researchers showing that the dimensions of the palatine tonsil are related to the parameters such as age-gender-body mass index, but there is no serious publication showing that this organ shows size differences between the races.[3] In another study by our same research group, it was shown that the SWE technique could distinguish cases with acute tonsillitis from the normal cases.[4] No serious publication has been found emphasizing that tonsillar inflammation differs between races. This confirms the functionality of the normal values presented in the mentioned study.

Numerous scholarly investigations have revealed notable resemblances or shared lineage between the Turkish populace and contemporary or historical populations residing in the Mediterranean, West Asia, and the Caucasus regions. Numerous studies have also identified the significant contributions made by Central Asia.[5] To our knowledge, there is no study reporting a significant difference between these gene groups in terms of tonsillar lymphoid diseases. As a result, we think that there are no objective data showing that the alleged ethnic/racial differences limit the power of the study.

Financial support and sponsorship

Nil.

Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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Received: 22-11-2023 **Accepted:** 26-12-2023 **Available Online:** 21-03-2024

Access this article online

Quick Response Code:

Website: https://journals.lww.com/jmut

DOI: 10.4103/jmu.jmu_155_23

How to cite this article: Senbil DC, Aydin S. Reply to comment on shear-wave elastography of palatine tonsils: A normative study in children. J Med Ultrasound 2024;32:90.