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DESCRIPTION

Mission Statement:
The mission of *The American Journal of the Medical Sciences* (AJMS) is to support the exchange of knowledge and information and to publish high quality clinical, basic, and education research. As the official Journal of the Southern Society for Clinical Investigation (SSCI), an academic organization, the AJMS will support the academic, educational, and medical research activities of the SSCI through the exchange of knowledge, information and ideas at the Southern Regional Meetings. Through these activities, the Journal will actively support mentoring, research activities and the scholarship of future generations of medical academicians.

Vision Statement:
*The American Journal of the Medical Sciences* will be recognized as a premier medical journal for showcasing basic and clinical medical research, and advances in medical education. *The American Journal of the Medical Sciences* is the official Journal of the Southern Society for Clinical Investigation (SSCI) and is dedicated to supporting the academic agenda of the SSCI. The AJMS is committed to supporting and encouraging young investigators, mentoring future generations of these investigators, and promoting their careers in academic medicine.

*The American Journal of The Medical Sciences* (AJMS), founded in 1820, is the 2nd oldest medical journal in the United States. The AJMS is the official journal of the Southern Society for Clinical Investigation (SSCI). The SSCI is dedicated to the advancement of medical research and the exchange of knowledge, information and ideas. Its members are committed to mentoring future generations of medical investigators and promoting careers in academic medicine. The AJMS publishes, on a monthly basis, peer-reviewed articles in the field of internal medicine and its subspecialties, which include: Original clinical and basic science investigations Review articles Online Images in the Medical Sciences

Special Features Include: Patient-Centered Focused Reviews History of Medicine The Science of Medical Education

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Patient-Centered Focused Review
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Or

"Reviewer 2, Comment 3: Additional data needed on subjects' concurrent diseases." Since this study was retrospective with study data collected from existing databases, we are unable to add information on concurrent diseases. We have added a statement in our Discussion (Page 15, Para 1) noting this limitation of our work and how differences among patients could have affected our results.

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