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**Evaluation of treatment outcome in patients with acute on
chronic liver failure using clinical scores**

Процена исхода лечења пацијената са акутизацијом
хроничне инсуфицијенције јетре применом клиничких скорова

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SUMMARY

Introduction/Objective Due to a very high mortality risk, acute on chronic liver failure (ACLF) patients require early identification and intensive treatment. Precise prediction is crucial for determining the urgency degree and therapy appropriateness, considering high mortality and multitude of clinical resources. The aim of our study was to determine the exact cut-off values of various prognostic scores in the prediction of mortality of ACLF.

Methods This prospective study includes chronic liver disease (CLD) patients, admitted due to decompensation, that were subsequently diagnosed with ACLF at the Emergency unit. All patients were evaluated based on various prognostic scores, including Child Pugh, MELD Na, MELD, SOFA, APACHE II, and CLIF C, which were calculated on admission.

Results Alcoholic liver disease (ALD) was the most common underlying CLD cause (77.9%), followed by viral (8.6%), autoimmune (7.7%) and other (5.8%). A total of 37.5% of the patients died at the end of the first month of treatment. Average values of Child-Pugh, MELD Na, MELD, SOFA, APACHE II, and CLIF C scores were significantly higher in patients who died compared to survivors ($p < 0.05$). CLIF C score showed the best performance with a cut-off value of 50.5, with a sensitivity of 94.9% and specificity of 40%.

Conclusions ACLF remains a condition with a high short-term mortality. Of all of the scores examined in our study, CLIF C proved to be the best scoring system for predicting short term and end of treatment mortality in patients with ACLF.

Keywords liver failure; ACLF; prognosis; mortality; scores

САЖЕТАК

Увод/циљ Рана идентификација и интензивна терапија је неопходна код пацијената са акутизацијом хроничне инсуфицијенције јетре (ACLF) због веома високог ризика од смртности. Прецизна предикција је пресудна за одређивање степена ургенције и адекватност терапије обзиром на морталитет и клиничке ресурсе. Циљ наше студије био је да одредимо тачне граничне вредности различитих прогностичких скорова у предикцији морталитета ACLF.

Метод Ова проспективна студија обухватила је болеснике са хроничном инсуфицијенцијом јетре (CLD) хоспитализованих због декомпензације и касније дијагностиковане ACLF у јединици интензивне неге. Сви пацијенти су процењени према различитим прогностичким скоровима, укључујући Child Pugh, MELD Na, MELD, SOFA, APACHE II и CLIF C, који су израчунати на пријему.

Резултати Алкохолна болест јетре (ALD) била је најчешћи узрок CLD (77,9%), затим вирусна (8,6%), аутоимуна (7,7%) и друга (5,8%). Укупно 37,5% пацијената је умрло на крају првог месеца лечења. Просечне вредности Child-Pugh, MELD Na, MELD, SOFA, APACHE II и CLIF C су биле значајно веће код пацијената који су умрли у односу на преживеле ($p < 0,05$). CLIF C скор је имао најбољи учинак са граничном вредношћу од 50,5, сензитивности 94,9% и специфичности од 40%.

Закључци ACLF представља стање са високом краткорочном смртношћу. Од свих скорова који су анализирани у нашој студији, CLIF C се показао као најбољи скор за предикцију крајњег морталитета пацијената са ACLF.

Кључне речи: инсуфицијенција јетре; ACLF; прогноза; морталитет; скорови

Introduction

Outcome of cirrhotic patients with acute decompensation (AD) is highly linked to possibility of developing acute-on-chronic liver failure (ACLF) [1, 2]. Introduced in recent years, ACLF is a relatively new term, with several definitions [1, 3, 4]. The joint American

Association for the Study of Liver Disease and European Association for the Study of the Liver (AASLD/EASL) identifies ACLF as a syndrome with a high mortality rate, which include a subgroup of cirrhotic patients who develop organ failure, with/without an identifiable precipitating event, such as variceal bleeding, acute alcoholism or an infection [1, 5]. Researchers from the EASL – Chronic Liver Failure Consortium (CLIF) prospectively studied patients with chronic liver disease (CLD) and AD, and found that patients with AD who had organ failure and high 28-day mortality rates, could be diagnosed with ACLF [1, 2, 6, 7]. Due to a very high risk of mortality, ACLF patients require early identification and intensive treatment [7, 8, 9]. Mortality in patients with two organ failures goes up to 32%, and rises to approximately 80% if three or more organ systems fail [10]. In contrast, patients with no organ failure (no ACLF) have a 28-day mortality of approximately 5% [6, 10].

Numerous prognostic scores have been assessed for predicting outcome in ACLF patients [11, 12]. Acute physiology and chronic health evaluation II (APACHE II), Child-Pugh score (CP), model for end stage liver disease (MELD), model for end stage liver disease sodium (MELD Na), sequential organ failure assessment (SOFA), and chronic liver failure-sequential organ failure assessment (CLIF-SOFA) are most often used scores in clinical practice [2, 11, 12]. Namely, these scores were developed to assist in clinical decision-making, and should be improved continuously, in order to increase accuracy in outcome prediction of these patients [2, 12, 13]. Precise prediction is crucial for determining adequate therapy because of high mortality and multitude of clinical resources [2, 10]. Outcome prediction in ACLF is not only important for assessing survival in intensive care units, but also for evaluating which patients are in need of curative liver transplant. Furthermore, insufficient number of donor organs make accuracy even more important [2]. The aim of our study was to determine the exact cut-off values of various prognostic scores in the prediction

of morality of ACLF patients, and to define which of the score is the most reliable in determining ACLF patients' prognosis.

Methods

This prospective study included CLD patients admitted due to AD and subsequently diagnosed with ACLF at the Emergency Unit, Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Clinical Center of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia from January 1, 2015 to July 1, 2016. All patients had previously diagnosed CLD or cirrhosis. The diagnosis of CLD or cirrhosis was established either histologically when available, or with a combination of clinical and laboratory findings, and imaging [14]. AD included any of the following: presence of ascites, gastrointestinal (GI) bleeding, hepatic encephalopathy and/or acute bacterial infections [2]. Exclusion criteria were: absence of any CLD, presence of hepatocellular carcinoma, presence of severe chronic extra-hepatic disease, admission due to other chronic illness, human immunodeficiency virus infection, chronic decompensation of end-stage liver disease, less than 28 days of follow up and incomplete data [15]. All patients have given their written informed consent for inclusion in the study

This study protocol was done in accordance with the ethical principles of the Declaration of Helsinki and was approved by the institutional Committee on Ethics of the Clinical Center of Serbia (18.11.2014; 1393/9).

Acute-on-chronic liver failure definition and types

ACLF was defined according to the EASL-CLIF Consortium definition in accordance with the CLIF-SOFA organ failure score, as: liver failure: serum bilirubin ≥ 12 mg/dl; renal failure: serum creatinine ≥ 2 mg/dl; cerebral failure: grade III–IV hepatic encephalopathy (West-Haven classification); coagulation failure: international normalized ratio ≥ 2.5 ;

circulatory failure: use of vasoconstrictors to treat severe arterial hypotension (use of vasoconstriction for the treatment of type 1 HRS in patients without severe hypotension not included); respiratory failure: $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 \geq 200$ or $\text{SpO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 \geq 214$ [16]. Renal dysfunction was diagnosed when serum creatinine ranged 1.5–1.9 mg/dl; cerebral dysfunction was diagnosed in patients with grade I or grade II hepatic encephalopathy.

Type 1 ACLF was defined by the presence of renal failure alone or by any other type of single system failure, if associated with renal dysfunction and/or cerebral dysfunction. Type II ACLF was defined by the presence of 2 and type III ACLF was defined by 3–6 organ failures [2, 14].

Patients clinical and biochemical parameters

Alcoholic liver disease (ALD) was considered as the underlying CLD if there was a positive history of alcohol consumption of at least 50 g per day for the past five years. Positive hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) or anti-hepatitis C antibodies defined viral etiology. Autoimmune etiology including, autoimmune hepatitis, primary biliary cholangitis, and primary sclerosing cholangitis, was diagnosed using specific antibodies. The remaining study cases had liver cirrhosis of other etiology, including non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, Wilson's disease, α -1 antitrypsin deficiency, hemochromatosis and cryptogenic, and were thus classified as other. The following clinical variables were collected: age, sex, etiology of cirrhosis, blood pressure, mean arterial pressure, heart rate, body temperature, respiratory rate, $\text{SpO}_2/\text{FiO}_2$ ratio, neurological status (Glasgow coma scale).

All patients underwent laboratory evaluation at admission, and the following tests were performed: white blood cell count, platelet count, hematocrit, aspartate aminotransferase, alanine aminotransferase, gamma-glutamyltransferase, serum electrolyte

levels, creatinine, international normalized ratio, prothrombin time, albumin, C-reactive protein, venous lactate and total bilirubin [4].

Prognostic scores and follow up

Patients were monitored until the end of the hospital treatment at our department, and up to 60 days after hospital discharge. To determine short-term mortality, 28-day, or the day of lethal outcome was analyzed and patients were defined as either survivors or non-survivors based on in-hospital death within the follow-up period. Values of prognostic scores at admission were analyzed in correlation to the type of insult (GI bleeding versus non-GI bleeding) [2]. All patients were evaluated based on various prognostic scores, including CP, MELD Na, MELD, SOFA, APACHE II and CLIF C, which were calculated at the time of admission by previously reported formulas [4, 16].

Statistical analysis

For normal variables, mean and standard deviations were calculated. χ^2 test and independent-sample t-test were used to assess the differences between the groups. P values under 0.05 were considered statistically significant. The performance of the MELD Na, MELD, SOFA, APACHE II, CLIF C and CP score in predicting the 28-day mortality and outcome at the end of treatment was analyzed by calculating the Area under the receiver operating characteristics (AUROC) curves. Based on the Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curves, the best cut-offs points were identified. Statistical analyses were performed using SPSS Statistics for Windows, Version 22.0 (IBM Corp. Armonk, NY, USA).

Results

Clinical characteristics of patients

Demographic and clinical characteristics of the patients are shown in Table 1. A total of 104 patients were included in the study, with 74.1% being male. Mean age of the cohort was 60.1 ± 9.9 years. ALD was the most common underlying CLD (77.9%), followed by viral (8.6%), autoimmune (7.7%) and other (5.8%). The acute insult for ACLF was gastrointestinal bleeding in 29.8% of the patients. Upper endoscopy was performed in all patients on admission, 29.8% had variceal bleeding, treated endoscopically and/or with appropriate vasoactive drugs. In patients where hemoglobin levels were below 70 g/l, blood transfusion was administered. Hypovolemic patients were given crystalloid solutions and albumin infusion.

Other non-bleeding insults such as infection, acute drug-induced liver injury, alcoholic hepatitis, reactivation of viral hepatitis, and acute liver vascular disease represented the remaining 70.2% of patients. Infection was identified through laboratory tests, urine analysis, and respective cultures. Third generation cephalosporins or fluoroquinolones were administered empirically, while respective antibiograms were obtained. Vasoactive medications were therapy of choice for 30 %patients. Enteral nutrition was administered in 50% patients. Acute drug induced liver injury was treated in 10% patients by supportive measures while they were waiting for liver transplant. A total of 37.5% of the patients died at the end of the first month of treatment, while 45% needed mechanical ventilation. By the end of the treatment, the percentage of lethal outcomes rose to 50%.

Prognostic scores

The average values of CP, MELD Na, MELD, SOFA, APACHE II score and CLIF C used for prediction are shown in Table 1. Average values of CP, MELD Na, MELD, SOFA,

APACHE II, and CLIF C scores according to the outcome at the end of the first month are summarized in Table 2. All average values were significantly higher in patients who died compared to survivors ($p < 0.05$). Based on this statistical significance we found the cut-off values of scores for predicting lethal outcome of patients with ACLF at the end of the first month (Table 3, 4 and Figure 1).

CLIF C score showed the best performance with a cut-off value of 50.5, which had a sensitivity of 94.9% and specificity of 40%. We also calculated the average values of the scores examined in relation to the outcome of patients with ACLF. As with outcome after one month, there were no statistically significant differences in mean scores investigated ($p > 0.05$). The average value of each individual score was higher in the group of patients who died compared to survivors (Table 5). Based on obtained statistical significance; we investigated the optimal values for predicting death in patients with ACLF. A ROC curve with respective AUROC was created for all scores (Table 6 and Figure 2). For the cut-off value of 49.5 CLIF C score, the sensitivity was 96.2% and specificity of 42.3%, which was the best predictive value relative to all other scores (Table 7). Average values of CP, MELD Na, MELD, SOFA, APACHE II and CLIF C score depending on acute insults are shown in Table 8. There were no statistically significant differences between the average values of the investigated scores in relation to bleeding vs. non-bleeding insult ($p > 0.05$).

Discussion

Prognosis in ACLF patients is influenced by the extent of acute injury and the degree of hepatic functional reserve. It is important to note that although ACLF represents a curable dynamic syndrome, it has a very unpredictable clinical course; which may improve or worsen in the span of 1–2 days or 2–4 weeks [2, 17].

In our study, approximately a half of the patients had a lethal outcome and the 28-day mortality was 37.5%, indicating that ACLF patients have a very high short-term mortality rate. Previous studies have also demonstrated that ACLF is a serious and challenging condition with a very high short term mortality [2, 6–9]

The mean age in our cohort was 60.1 ± 9.9 , which is similar to the previous study of Mikolasevic et al. [7], but different from the study of Dhiman et al. [18] where the mean age was 46 ± 13 years. We can explain the differences by large number of patients with ALD where the onset of the disease was usually at an older age. Our cohort was predominantly of male sex which is similar to studies of Dhiman et al. [18] and Amarapurkar et al. [19].

The most common cause of cirrhosis in our cohort was ALD (79.16%), which is consistent with study of Mikolasevic et al. [7]. We also found that bleeding was the most common precipitating event, seen in 29.8% of our patients. Dominguez et al. [20] had similar rates of bleeding, while Dupont et al. [21] reported higher bleeding rates (47%). Furthermore, higher occurrence of bleeding as the precipitating event to ACLF was seen in patients with diagnosed hepatorenal syndrome [22].

Previous studies have compared different prognostic scores in order to determine which has the best predictive value [23]. Patients with lethal outcome had significantly higher values of all observed scores on admission compared to other patients. We strove to determine the optimal cut-off value for predicting 28-day mortality of each individual score, and to detect which score is the most reliable one in prediction of short-term mortality.

For the prediction of 28-day mortality CP score had a cut-off of 9.5 with the sensitivity and specificity 92.3% and 26.2%, respectively; while the AUROC was 0.760, which is similar to a study conducted by Mikolasevic et al. [7], where AUROC for CP in the prediction of short term mortality was 0.707.

In our study, MELD score had a cut-off point of 18.5 with a sensitivity and specificity of 87.2% and 47.7%, respectively; with the AUROC 0.843 which was significantly higher than Mikolasevic et al. [7], observed. Namely, AUROC for the MELD score in their study was 0.687. Moreover a number of studies confirmed that MELD score is discrimination factor similar to SOFA and APACHE II [8].

For MELD-Na, the best cut-off value was 20.5, with a sensitivity and specificity of 87.2% and 47.7%, respectively. In our study, AUROC was 0.796. Mikolasevic et al. [7] had an AUROC for MELD-Na of 0.687. MELD-Na score thus, also proved to be just as good in predicting short-term mortality and mortality end of treatment.

SOFA score at a cut-off of eight had the sensitivity and specificity of 84.6% and 44.6%, respectively with an AUROC of 0.714. In the studies conducted by Mikolasevic et al. [7], the AUROC for the SOFA score was 0.616, which was lower than our results. However, Lee et al. [9] reported AUROC of 0.876, which is higher than our results, in predicting short-term mortality. Moreover, Lee et al. [9] showed that CLIF-SOFA is good in predicting short-term mortality within the first four weeks of an acute episode. Silva et al. [8], showed that the SOFA score was less inferior in predicting 30-day mortality when compared to the MELD and CP score with AUROC values of 0.777, 0.829 and 0.793 respectively, which is similar to our results.

For the APACHE II score, the best cut-off value was 12.5 with a sensitivity and specificity of 92.3% and 46.2% and an AUROC of 0.778. The AUROC for the APACHE II score evidenced by Mikolasevic et al. [7], was 0.878, while in studies conducted by Duseja et al. [24, 25], APACHE II score had the highest predictive value with an AUROC of 0.74, as compared to the MELD (AUROC 0.67), CP (AUROC 0.61) and SOFA scores (AUROC 0.65). Cholongitas et al. [26] estimated SOFA, APACHE II, MELD and CP scores and determined the best AUROC using SOFA (0.83), followed by MELD (0.81) and APACHE II

(0.78), in the prediction of six week mortality. Better results in predicting mortality using the APACHE II score can be explained by the fact that in the APACHE II score included several physiological variables, thus encompassing more organ dysfunction values when calculated in contrast to other prognostic scores. Some studies imply that the APACHE II is the best predictive scoring system, owing to the fact that in ACLF the prognosis is determined by the degree of multiple organ dysfunction and not solely by the severity of liver failure [4]. Predicting end of treatment mortality with the APACHE II score was best achieved with a cut-off value of 11.5, with a sensitivity and specificity of 92.3% and 38.5% and an AUROC of 0.744.

CLIF-C score proved to be the best predictor of mortality with a cut-off value of 50.5, sensitivity of 94.9% and specificity of 40%, and an AUROC value of 0.867. Based on data from the CANONIC study, a prognostic score for specifically for ACLF evolved and was named the "CLIF CONSORTIUM score for ACLF" (CLIF-C ACLFs) [16]. This score is the result of combining "CLIF-Consortium Organ Failure score (CLIF C-OF) (designed for the diagnosis of ACLF), and two other independent predictors of mortality namely, age and white blood cell count [16]. Thus, the CLIF-C ACLFs score demonstrated a higher predictive accuracy than MELD, MELD-Na, and CP. The best cut-off value for predicting mortality at the end of treatment was of 49.5, with sensitivity of 96.2%, specificity of 42.3%, and an AUROC of 0.859.

Similar to other conducted studies, we didn't found a significant difference between the average scores compared to the precipitating insult [11].

Conclusion

The results of our study showed that ACLF remains a condition with high short-term mortality. Of all of the scores examined in our study, CLIF-C proved to be the best scoring system for predicting short term and end of treatment mortality in patients with ACLF.

Conflict of interest: None declared.

Paper accepted

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Table 1. Demographic and clinical characteristics of the patients (n = 104)

Sex	
Female	27 (25.9%)
Male	77 (74.1%)
Age	60.1 ± 9.9
Etiology of CLD	
ALD	81 (77.9%)
Viral	9 (8.6%)
Autoimmune	8 (7.7%)
Other	6 (5.8%)
Bleeding insult	31 (29.8%)
Non-bleeding insult	73 (70.2%)
Outcome at 28 days	
Lethal	39 (37.5%)
Survivors	65 (62.5%)
Outcome at the end of observation	
Lethal	52 (50%)
Survivors	52 (50%)
Score for Prediction	Mean value
Child-Pugh	11.0 ± 1.8
MELD Na	23.9 ± 6.5
MELD	21.3 ± 6.8
SOFA	9.5 ± 2.6
APACHE II	14.3 ± 4.2
CLIF C	55.8 ± 8.5

CLD – Chronic liver disease; ALD – alcoholic liver disease; MELD Na – model for end stage liver disease sodium; MELD – model for end stage liver disease; SOFA – sequential organ failure assessment; APACHE II – acute physiology and chronic health evaluation II; CLIF C – chronic liver failure consortium.

Table 2. Average values of the investigated scores depending on the outcome at the end of the month

Score	Survived	Died	p value
Child-Pugh	10.4 ± 1.6	12.1 ± 1.7	< 0.001
MELD Na	21.5 ± 5.5	27.8 ± 6.1	< 0.001
MELD	18.5 ± 5.2	26.1 ± 6.5	< 0.001
SOFA	8.9 ± 2.6	10.4 ± 2.2	0.004
APACHEII	12.9 ± 3.9	16.7 ± 3.4	< 0.001
CLIF C	51.7 ± 5.8	62.6 ± 7.8	< 0.001

MELD Na – Model for end stage liver disease sodium; MELD – model for end stage liver disease; SOFA – sequential organ failure assessment; APACHE II – acute physiology and chronic health evaluation II; CLIF C – chronic liver failure consortium.

Table 3. Cut off values of scores in predicting lethal outcome of patients with ACLF at the end of the first month.

Score	Cut-off	Sensitivity (%)	Specificity (%)
Child-Pugh	9.5	92.3	26.2
MELD Na	20.5	87.2	47.7
MELD	18.5	87.2	52.3
SOFA	8.5	84.6	44.6
APACHE II	12.5	92.3	46.2
CLIF C	50.5	94.9	40

MELD Na – Model for end stage liver disease sodium; MELD – model for end stage liver disease; SOFA – sequential organ failure assessment; APACHE II – acute physiology and chronic health evaluation II; CLIF C – chronic liver failure consortium.

Table 4. Area under the receiver operating curve values for scores of other test scores

Score	AUROC
Child-Pugh	0.760
MELD Na	0.796
MELD	0.843
SOFA	0.714
APACHE II	0.778
CLIF C	0.867

AUROC – Area under the receiver operating curve; MELD Na – model for end stage liver disease sodium; MELD – model for end stage liver disease; SOFA – sequential organ failure assessment; APACHE II – acute physiology and chronic health evaluation II; CLIF C – chronic liver failure consortium.

Table 5. The mean value of the scores examined in relation to the final outcome of patients

Score	Survived	Died	p value
Child-Pugh	10.4 ± 1.6	11.7 ± 1.7	< 0.001
MELD Na	20.7 ± 4.4	27.1 ± 6.7	< 0.001
MELD	17.4 ± 3.5	25.2 ± 7.1	< 0.001
SOFA	8.8 ± 2.7	10.1 ± 2.2	< 0.001
APACHE II	12.7 ± 4.1	16.0 ± 3.6	< 0.001
CLIF C	50.6 ± 5.6	60.9 ± 7.7	< 0.001

MELD Na – Model for end stage liver disease sodium; MELD – model for end stage liver disease; SOFA – sequential organ failure assessment; APACHE II – acute physiology and chronic health evaluation II; CLIF C – chronic liver failure consortium.

Table 6. Area under the receiver operating curve values for prognosis scores.

Score	AUROC
Child-Pugh	0.710
MELD Na	0.785
MELD	0.840
SOFA	0.691
APACHE II	0.744
CLIF C	0.859

AUROC – Area under the receiver operating curve; MELD Na – model for end stage liver disease sodium; MELD – model for end stage liver disease; SOFA – sequential organ failure assessment; APACHE II – acute physiology and chronic health evaluation II; CLIF C – chronic liver failure consortium.

Table 7. Cut off values, sensitivity, and specificity for predicting death in patients with ACLF.

Score	Cut off	Sensitivity (%)	Specificity (%)
Child-Pugh	9.5	86.5	25
MELD Na	18.5	88.5	32.7
MELD	15.5	90.4	34.6
SOFA	7.5	86.5	26.9
APACHE II	11.5	92.3	38.5
CLIF C	49.5	96.2	42.3

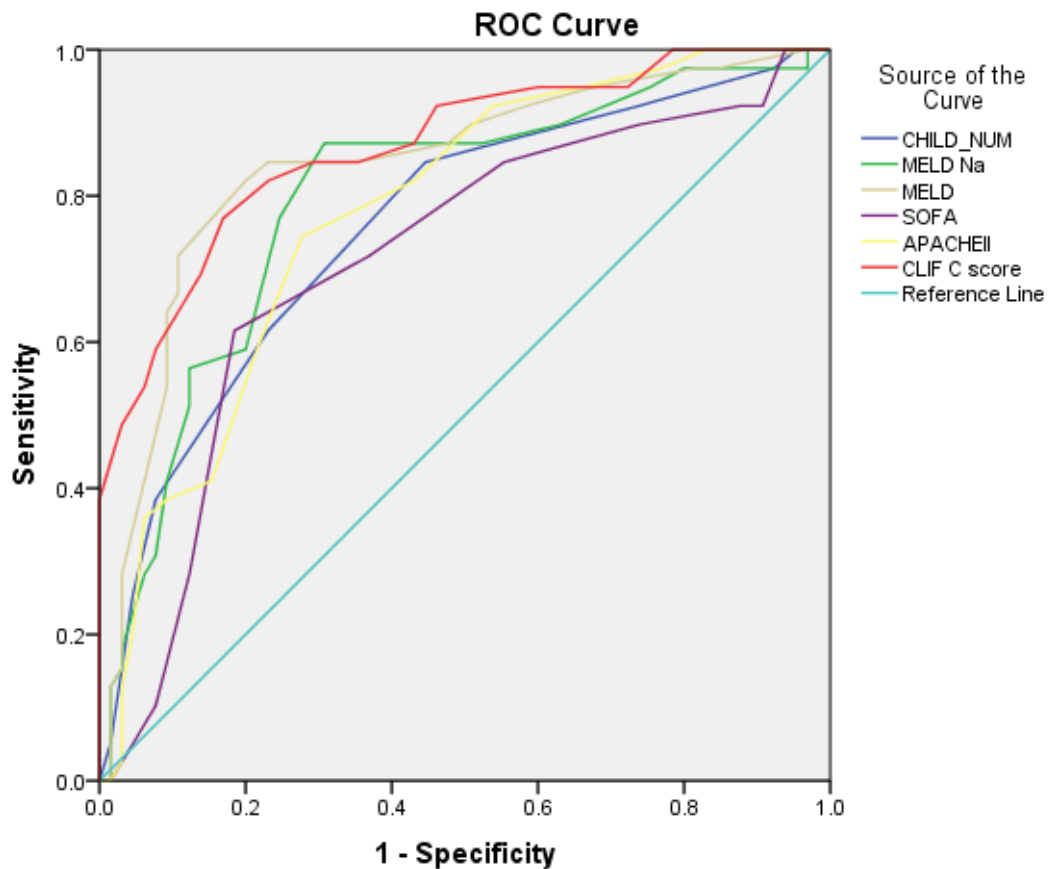
ACLF – Acute on chronic liver failure; MELD Na – model for end stage liver disease sodium; MELD – model for end stage liver disease; SOFA – sequential organ failure assessment; APACHE II – acute physiology and chronic health evaluation II; CLIF C – chronic liver failure consortium.

Table 8. Average values of Child Pugh, MELD Na, MELD, SOFA, APACHE II score and CLIF C according to bleeding vs. non-bleeding insult (n = 104).

Score	Bleeding insult	Non-bleeding insult	p value
Child-Pugh	10.7 ± 2.0	11.2 ± 1.7	0.279
MELD Na	22.2 ± 5.9	24.6 ± 6.6	0.086
MELD	20.2 ± 6.6	21.8 ± 6.9	0.269
SOFA	9.1 ± 2.6	9.6 ± 2.6	0.351
APACHE II	14.0 ± 4.0	14.5 ± 4.3	0.634
CLIF C	55.9 ± 9.3	55.7 ± 8.2	0.943

MELD Na – Model for end stage liver disease sodium; MELD – model for end stage liver disease; SOFA – sequential organ failure assessment; APACHE II – acute physiology and chronic health evaluation II; CLIF C – chronic liver failure consortium.

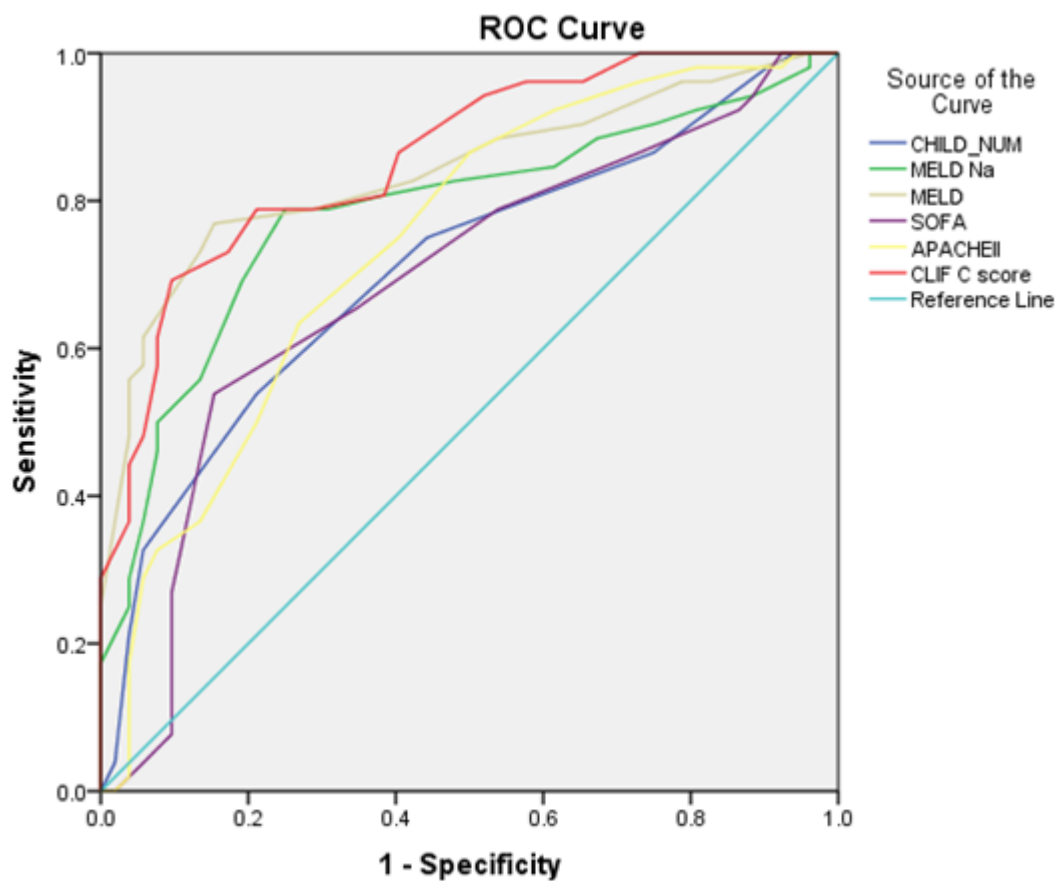
Figure 1. The area under the receiver operating characteristic curve for the following prognostic scores in patients with acute on chronic liver failure for prediction of lethal outcome at the end of the month.



Diagonal segments are produced by ties.

MELD Na – model for end stage liver disease sodium; MELD – model for end stage liver disease; SOFA – sequential organ failure assessment; APACHE II – acute physiology and chronic health evaluation II; CLIF C – chronic liver failure consortium.

Figure 2. The area under the receiver operating characteristic curve for the following prognostic scores in patients with acute on chronic liver failure for prediction of lethal outcome at the end of treatment.



Diagonal segments are produced by ties.

MELD Na – model for end stage liver disease sodium; MELD – model for end stage liver disease; SOFA – sequential organ failure assessment; APACHE II – acute physiology and chronic health evaluation II; CLIF C – chronic liver failure consortium.