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Reply to the Letter to the Editor: "Would the Hemoglobin, Albumin, Lymphocyte, and Platelet Score Help Predict Atrial Fibrillation Recurrence After Cryoballoon Ablation?"

Editöre Mektup Yanıtı: "Hemoglobin, Albümin, Lenfosit ve Trombosit Skoru Kriyoballon Ablasyon Sonrası Atriyal Fibrilasyon Tekrarını Tahmin Etmeye Yardımcı Olur mu?"

To the Editor.

We would like to express our appreciation to the author¹ for their keen interest in our article titled "Assessment of the Efficacy of the Hemoglobin, Albumin, Lymphocyte, and Platelet (HALP) Score in Predicting Recurrence of Atrial Fibrillation Following Cryo-Balloon Ablation."² Your thoughtful comments and observations have provided valuable insights.

As highlighted, the HALP score, which was originally introduced as a vital prognostic tool in oncology, is now gaining significant traction in the field of cardiovascular research. We firmly believe that the HALP score stands out as an easily accessible and cost-effective immunonutritional biomarker capable of effectively stratifying the risk of atrial fibrillation (AF) recurrence after cryoballoon ablation (CBA). Our findings clearly demonstrated that lower HALP scores are associated with older age, corroborating previous studies from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), which revealed a clear inverse relationship between age and HALP levels.³

However, it is important to acknowledge the limitation posed by the lack of data regarding the duration from AF diagnosis to CBA, commonly referred to as "diagnosis-to-ablation time." This gap in information is a notable drawback, as the retrospective nature of our data collection made consistent documentation of this variable challenging. Addressing this limitation in future prospective studies may further clarify the role of the HALP score in relation to diagnosis-to-ablation time, which remains an area for further research.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR REPLY EDITÖRE MEKTUP YANITI

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