

Low-grade blunt hepatic injury and benefits of intensive care unit monitoring

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DISCUSSANT

DR. RONALD M. STEWART (San Antonio, TX): Dr. Eastridge is ill. He is doing okay but could not travel. So I am going to read his questions.

(Reading comments by DR. BRIAN EASTRIDGE of San Antonio, TX): I would like to thank the Program Committee of the Southwestern Surgical Congress for the invitation to discuss this paper. I would also like to thank the authors for a thoughtful and well-written manuscript.

The principal aim of Dr. Perumean and colleagues' research was to identify subpopulations of patients with blunt hepatic injury that could safely be observed in a non-ICU environment. The premise for this research is extremely well founded in the contemporary climate of medicine with the ever present quest for efficiency, cost containment, and value while optimizing outcomes and preserving patient safety.

In the analysis, the metrics evaluated were deemed not sensitive or specific enough to safely predict which patients could safely be monitored in a non-ICU environment. Though the study did not produce the expected results, the fundamental question still has

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