Dear Editor

We have read the article of Erkan et al. entitled ‘Relationship between nitrate-induced headache and coronary artery lesion complexity’ [1] with great interest. The authors concluded that nitrate-induced headache (NIH) was inversely associated with the SYNTAX score which identified the complexity of coronary artery disease.

Indeed, the clinical application of the SYNTAX score has been widening. It was basically developed to guide the cardiologists to decide the revascularization option: coronary artery bypass grafting or percutaneous coronary intervention [2]. Moreover, the SYNTAX score system has been upgraded by the addition of various clinical variables (age, creatinine clearance, and left ventricle ejection fraction) or invasive parameters (such as fractional flow reserve), and the clinical SYNTAX score, logistic clinical SYNTAX score, SYNTAX score II, and functional SYNTAX score were developed. Since the SYNTAX score is derived from numerous parameters such as dominance, number of lesions, segments involved per lesion, lesion characteristics, total occlusion (number of segments involved, age of total occlusion, blunt stump, bridging collaterals, side branch involvement), trifurcation (number of diseased segments), bifurcation (type, angulation between distal main vessel and side branch), aorto-ostial lesion, severe tortuosity, length ≥20 mm, thrombus, or diffuse disease/small vessels (number of diffuse disease/small vessels) [3], the authors could have described those parameters and the method of SYNTAX score calculation in the Material and Method section. Additionally, which types or characteristics of lesions predominated and were associated with the absence of NIH could have been presented. Additionally, the results are promising and may be used to provide a novel clinical tool if it is developed or integrated in a scoring system.

In conclusion, the relationship of NIH and features of coronary artery lesion complexity was invited to respond to this letter but he declined to do so.

Editor’s Note

The corresponding author of ‘Relationship between nitrate-induced headache and coronary artery lesion complexity’ was invited to respond to this letter but he declined to do so.

References