INTRODUCTION
Interleukin C virus (HCV) is a major health problem affecting 170 million people worldwide. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimated in 2011 that Egypt suffers from what is considered the most important health problem in the world, with Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) spread by blood transfusion. The management of patients with HCV poses a particular challenge for the medical community because of the severe complications that can arise. In particular, patients with HCV-related cirrhosis are at high risk for the development of spontaneous bacterial peritonitis (SBP). This study was conducted to assess the diagnostic value of serum presepsin in patients with cirrhosis and spontaneous bacterial peritonitis.

MATERIALS AND METHODS
The study included 20 patients who were divided into two groups: Group I (n=10) represented patients with sterile ascites, and Group II (n=10) represented patients with spontaneous bacterial peritonitis. The diagnosis of SBP was based on the International Ascites Club (IAC) criteria. The patient group was divided according to the presepsin level at the time of admission into two subgroups: Group IA: patients with a presepsin level ≥1000 pg/ml and Group IB: patients with a presepsin level <1000 pg/ml.

RESULTS
The presepsin level in the resolved patients of group II was 1180.0 pg/ml, while the presepsin level in the patients who died was 1180.0 pg/ml. The presepsin level in the resolved cases was 1180.0 pg/ml, while the presepsin level in the patients who died was 1180.0 pg/ml.

CONCLUSION
The results suggest that presepsin may be a useful marker for the diagnosis and monitoring of patients with cirrhosis and spontaneous bacterial peritonitis. Further studies are needed to investigate the clinical utility of presepsin in this context.

SELECTED REFERENCES