

Figures:

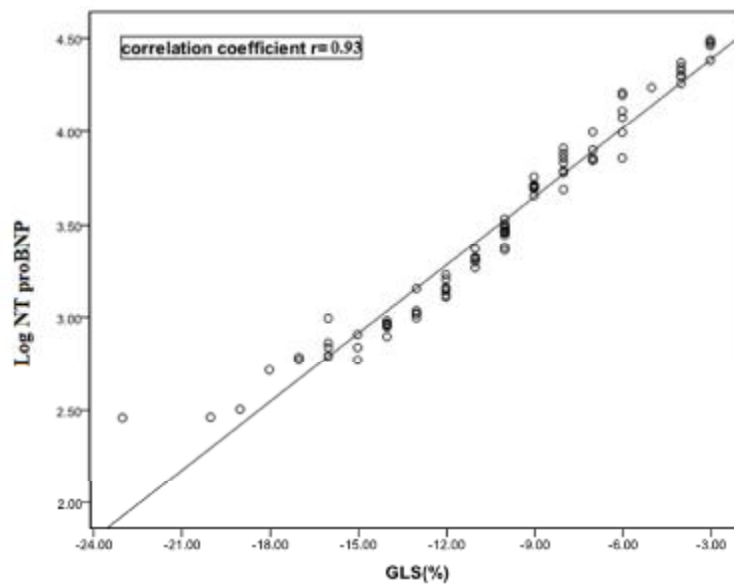


Figure 1: Linear regression model for correlation between NT-proBNP and GLS.

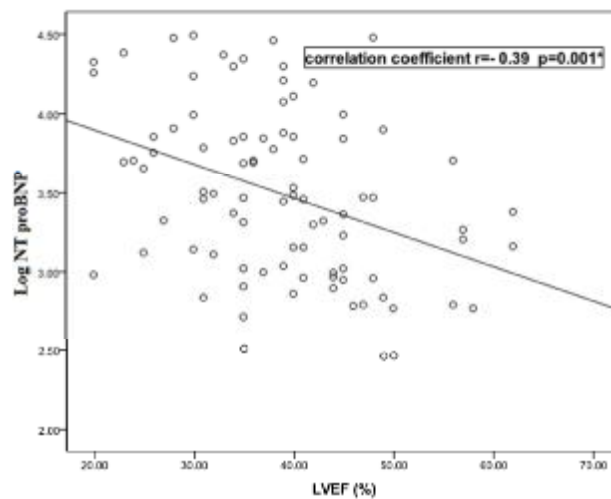


Figure 2: Linear regression model for correlation between NT-proBNP and LVEF.

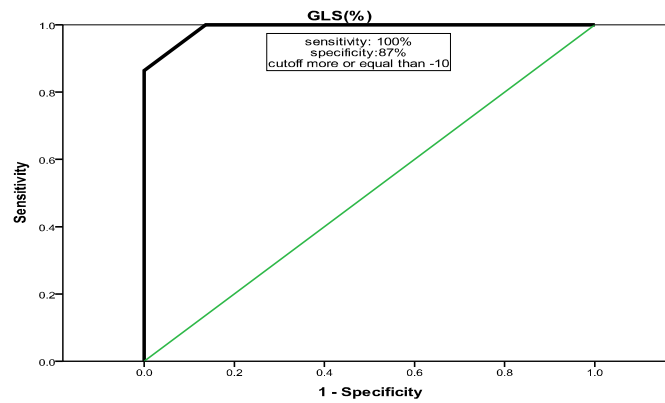


Figure 3: ROC curve analysis representation of the diagnostic performance (AUC = 0.99) of GLS as a predictor of relatively high values of NT *proBNP*.

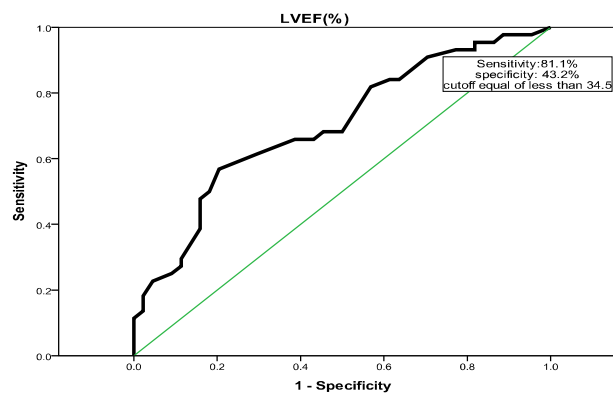


Figure 4: ROC curve analysis representation of the diagnostic performance (AUC = 0.70) of LVEF as a predictor of relatively high values of NT *proBNP*