

Statistical Review Report

Case Number: ERBJ20140105 ms

Manuscript Title: Downregulation of miR-193a-5p correlates with lymph node metastasis and poor prognosis in colorectal cancer

Study Design

The study design of current study is clear. A total of 304 FFPE were included with 69 paired cancer and normal tissues, 55 primary tumor of stage III CRC and matched lymph nodes and 56 primary tumor of stage II CRC. The prognosis effect of miR-193a-5p was evaluated by (1)comparing the expression of miR-193a-5p between cancer tissues and normal tissues.

(2)comparing the expression of miR-193a-5p between CRC with and without lymph node metastasis

(3) comparing the expression of miR-193a-5p among different lymph node stage

To determine if miR-193a-5p is a clinicopathological factor of CRC, univariate and multivariate survival analysis were conducted.

Analytical Methods

(1) The author states that Mann Whitney test or Kruskal-Wallis test were used to study the categorical data. Although in the Results section, which test to be used is specified in the figure, I still suggest to mention the test in the Statistical Analysis more clearly. For example, Mann Whitney test is used to compare between two groups. When there are more than two groups, Kruskal-Wallis test is used to examine the differences among them.

(2) In Table 2, the reference level is indicated by the hazard ratio of 1. The author is suggested to use the same format of the hazard ratio for Table 3; that is, to specify the reference group for Table 3 as well.

Overall Decision

In the Statistical Analysis section, the statistical models are all properly conducted.