

October 7, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 13224-revise 1007.docx).

Title: Transarterial chemoembolization for hepatocellular carcinoma: A review of techniques

Author: Norihiro Imai, Masatoshi Ishigami, Yoji Ishizu, Teiji Kuzuya, Takashi Honda, Kazuhiko Hayashi, Yoshiaki Hirooka, Hidemi Goto

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Hepatology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 13224

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated. Changing points are highlighted with red color.

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers.

Dear Reviewer #00923968

Thank you very much for your constructive comments on our manuscript.

Please see the following comments and answers:

(1) *This is a review, but not a systematic review. Thus, this article can have the potential biases of the authors. This limitation has not been mentioned in this paper.*

We added limitations in a new heading.

(2) *The 2 classical randomized controlled trials coming from Barcelona and from Hong Kong which established the role of TACE in HCC have not been given enough emphasis (Llovet JM et al, Lancet 2002, Lo CM et al. Hepatology 2002).*

To emphasize two RCT, we newly added Table 1.

Dear Reviewer #00289507

Thank you very much for your constructive comments on our manuscript.

Please see the following comments and answers:

(1) *The authors wrote not only technique in this article. Therefore, the description of “a review of technique” is not appropriate.*

As you mentioned, we also described history of TACE in this review. Because we thought that knowledge of history is important to understand new techniques.

(2)(3) *No description about c-TACE, Bo-TACE and DEB-TACE. You need to refine the abstract because the main text should be substantially modified.*

In accordance with your suggestion, we added these words in the abstract.

(4) *JSH should be spelled out.*

We changed “JSH” to “Japan Society of Hepatology”.

(5) *Diagnostic and therapeutic angiography can be performed without use of a unified angiography/CT system.*

We did not refer to unified angiography/CT system in this review.

(6) *Give concrete comments about important roles of TACE in locoregional and multidisciplinary treatment.*

In accordance with your suggestion, we added words in the sentence.

(7) *You must review the latest research findings, not previous.*

We newly reviewed some latest research. And we added Table in this review.

(8)(9) *Explain the meaning and significance of your review in TACE. I recommend comparing between the East and West guideline in TACE and clarifying the difference in a new heading.*

We added limitations in a new heading.

(10) *In the first half of first paragraph, your description is not necessary because of well-known facts.*

We want to emphasize the knowledge of basic strategies in HCC treatment. Because we thought that knowledge of history is important to understand new techniques.

(11) *You need to enrich comments about development of imaging instrument such as digital technology and flat-panel detectors, etc.*

We did not describe the improvement of imaging technology especially in this review. Therefore, we wrote a sentence in “Changes in hepatic artery chemoembolization for HCC”.

(12) *The content overlaps. These headings need to be recognized and refined.*

We want to emphasize the knowledge of basic strategies in HCC treatment. Because we thought that knowledge of history is important to understand new techniques.

(13) *You have to cite many literatures and show much evidence of c-TACE. I recommend showing the tables of survivals and local recurrences from many c-TACE studies.*

In accordance with your suggestion, we newly added Table in this review.

(14)(15) *Explain the micro balloon catheter and anticancer drugs in detail. Show the images of a successful case of Bo-TACE.*

In accordance with your suggestion, we added Figure in this review.

(16) *Explain not only platinum complex agents but also the other anticancer drugs.*

We described some drugs in “Changes in hepatic artery chemoembolization for HCC”.

(17) *No comment of bland TAE.*

We thought that bland TAE is not ordinary performed in HCC treatment. Therefore, we did not described bland TAE in this review.

(18) *You have to cite many literatures and show much evidence of DEB-TACE. I recommend showing the tables of survivals and local recurrences from many DEB-TACE studies.*

In accordance with your suggestion, we newly added Table in this review.

(19) *Make comments about “c-TACE vs. DEB-TACE” in a new heading.*

This is not a systemic review. Therefore, we only wrote “However, clear evidence of DEB-TACE superiority compared to cTACE has not been established to date.” in this review.

(20) *Explain the complications of TACE in a new heading.*

We just described TACE for HCC, focus on improvement of techniques. Therefore, we did not describe complications of TACE in this review.

(21) *Make a specific comment about future perspective in TACE.*

We added limitations in a new heading.

(22) *Again, I recommend showing the tables of survivals and local recurrences.*

In accordance with your suggestion, we newly added Table in this review.

(23) *Again, I recommend showing the images of successful Bo-TACE.*

In accordance with your suggestion, we newly added Figure in this review.

Dear Reviewer #02456611

Thank you very much for your constructive comments on our manuscript.

Please see the following comments and answers:

(1) *The paper is short of necessary analysis and discussion, such as the indications, effect comparison among different TACE techniques, future perspective in TACE.....*

In accordance with your suggestion, we newly added Table and Figure in this review. And we added limitations in a new heading.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Hepatology*.

Sincerely yours,

Masatoshi Ishigami

Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine

65 Tsurumai-cho, Showa-ku, Nagoya 466-8550, Japan

Phone: +81-52-744-2169, FAX: +81-52-744-2178

E-mail: masaishi@med.nagoya-u.ac.jp