

Title: Body mass index does not affect the survival of pancreatic cancer patients

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for sending us the reviewers' and editors' comments. A list of responses to all issues that the reviewers raised is provided below.

Reviewer #03552996

None

Reviewer #02941357

1. The authors state that BMI 1 year prior to diagnosis was established. How was this done?

Done as suggested. Please see the first paragraph of materials and methods

How many missing values were there?

Done as suggested. Only patients with complete medical history were analyzed.

Was the BMI at diagnosis used for analysis or did the authors look at the BMI 1 year prior to diagnosis?

Done as suggested. Please see the last paragraph of results.

2. The Chinese criteria for obesity are different than in a Western population, however I do not understand why obesity-specific co-morbidities such as diabetes were not more prevalent in the obese group compared with the normal populations. How do the authors explain this?

Done as suggested. Please see the discussion.

3. These results show that BMI at diagnosis is not associated with differences in survival. The authors suggest in the introduction and discussion that BMI is not related to an increased risk of getting cancer. This needs to be clarified, since these results do not show this.

Done as suggested. Please see the updated introduction and discussion.

4. In Table 1, the percentages that are given in each group make interpretation difficult. I would recommend expressing each item as percentage of the whole group, not as percentage of the item.

Done as suggested.

5. The manuscript needs a native English speaker to go through it.

Done as suggested.