

Dennis A Bloomfield and Sandro Vento

Editor-in-Chief

World Journal of Clinical Cases

Dear chief editors,

Please find our enclosed manuscript entitled “Impact of perioperative transfusion in patients undergoing resection of colorectal cancer liver metastases: a population-based study” for consider publication in World Journal of Clinical Cases.

Recently, the editor of World Journal of Gastroenterology suggested us to submit our study to World Journal of Clinical Cases because the result of this study provide readers with interesting information on the impact of blood transfusion on patients undergoing hepatectomy for metastatic colorectal cancer.

The editor of World Journal of Gastroenterology suggested us to explain the comorbidities used in this study. All comorbidities used in this study were based on the NIS database. For example, variables CM_ANEMDEF and CM_BLDLOSS were used for chronic anemia. CM_ANEMDEF used ICD-9-CM codes including 280.1-281.9, 285.21-285.29, and 285.9. CM_BLDLOSS indicates ICD-9-CM codes 2800 and 648.20-648.24. Patients with hepatectomy and partial hepatectomy were included in the study according to ICD-9:50.3 and ICD-9:50.22, respectively. The definition has been included in the revised manuscript. The aims of this study are to identify the factors associated with perioperative transfusion and examine the impact of perioperative transfusion in patients undergoing resection of colorectal cancer (CRC) liver metastases. The results of this study demonstrated that in addition to hepatic lobectomy, emergency admission, chronic anemia and surgery at a non-teaching hospital are more likely to receive a perioperative transfusion. In addition, the study provides an initial hit that patients with liver metastases who underwent perioperative transfusion were at higher risk of hospital mortality, postoperative complications, and longer hospital stays. The results of this study also indicate that it is worthwhile in future to study the impact of liver resection area and extent on mortality in CRC patients.

Thank you very much to consider our manuscript for potential publication.

Sincerely yours,

Bo Long, MD, Ph. D

No36, San Hao street, Shenyang, China 110004

Tel: +8618940259927;

Fax: +86-24-23892617

E-mail: longb@sj-hospital.org