

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery

**Manuscript NO:** 57211

**Title:** Impact of palliative therapies in metastatic esophageal cancer patients not receiving chemotherapy

**Reviewer's code:** 01192203

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Attending Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-06-03

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-06-03 05:18

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-06-03 05:59

**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The study addresses the impact of palliative treatments in patients with esophageal carcinoma not undergoing chemotherapy. The study is clear, well structured and written. The purpose is well identified. Appropriate methods and statistics. Bibliographical references are adequate. Some clarifications: The concept of palliative treatment is confusing and needs to be expressed more clearly. A palliative treatment by definition cannot modify survival except marginally (but in that case it must be defined as curative, that is, that modifies the natural history of the disease). In this category of patient the main outcome should be the quality of life in its various forms (pain, ability to carry out one's activities, diet by mouth etc). I understand that these outcomes cannot be derived from this patients dataset. Secondly, the words metastatic and advanced are used interchangeably. I don't know if it is possible, but I think it would be important to see if in the dataset it is possible to distinguish the situation of the patient with systemic metastasis from that with locally advanced disease. I think it is two completely different situations, especially when we study the effect of palliative treatments. Otherwise is better to use the expression "metastatic/advanced". Good paper!

## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Author's Country/Territory:** United States

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**Reviewer chosen by:** Ji-Hong Liu (Technical Editor)

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**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-07-27 07:39

**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



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Good job....no further comments