

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

Manuscript NO: 70613

Title: A case of sarcomatoid intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma with good patient prognosis after treatment with Huaier granules after hepatectomy

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05863678

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: South Dakota

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-08-10

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-08-12 17:58

Reviewer performed review: 2021-08-20 10:09

Review time: 7 Days and 16 Hours

Scientific quality	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<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
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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Peer-reviewer statements	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

Overall interesting report and well written. Need bit of language revision.

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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03034605

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MBBS, MCh, MD

Professional title: Assistant Professor, Attending Doctor, Chief Doctor, Consultant Physician-Scientist, Surgeon

Reviewer's Country/Territory: India

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-08-10

Reviewer chosen by: Jin-Lei Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-10-20 02:18

Reviewer performed review: 2021-10-21 07:21

Review time: 1 Day and 5 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection

Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	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

The authors have presented an interesting case of incidentally detected Sarcomatoid intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma treated successfully by liver resection. I have following comments regarding the manuscript.

1. The role of Huaier granules in preventing the development of tumor recurrence cannot be determined by this single case report. Please revise the title, abstract and main text accordingly.
2. Why the tumor lesion not visible on MRI?
3. Was contrast enhanced computed tomography of the abdomen done preoperatively? If not then why?
4. What was the Hepatitis C virus status of this patient?
5. Please mention which hepatectomy was done - right, right extended, segmental?
6. Please add the operative time, intraoperative blood loss and duration of hospital stay after surgery.
7. Did the patient had recurrent pyogenic cholangitis which predisposed to the development of intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma?
8. What was the histological finding of the adjoining non-tumorous liver in the resected specimen? Did it show cirrhosis or any other liver disease?

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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03294293

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: FEBS, MD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Lecturer, Surgeon

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Turkey

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-08-10

Reviewer chosen by: Jin-Lei Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-10-20 12:36

Reviewer performed review: 2021-10-25 13:02

Review time: 5 Days

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<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
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Congratulations for the diagnosis and the treatment of incidental SICC. But are you sure about the effectiveness of the Hauier granules for SICC after surgery, because your case is an early stage SICC maybe no extra treatment is needed for this tumor?

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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03253490

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Turkey

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-08-10

Reviewer chosen by: Jin-Lei Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-10-26 06:09

Reviewer performed review: 2021-10-29 12:53

Review time: 3 Days and 6 Hours

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

Peer-reviewer statements	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

Feng et al. presented a case of a patient with SICC treated with Huaier granules as an adjuvant treatment after surgery. The patient was a 69-year-old Chinese man admitted to our hospital in December 2014 due to intermittent right upper abdominal pain for one month and a 4-pound weight loss. Abdomen magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and MRCP showed multiple stones in the intrahepatic and extrahepatic bile ducts accompanied by dilatation of the intrahepatic and extrahepatic bile ducts. No CT images available before surgery. Surgical resection was performed. rapid frozen-section biopsy analysis indicated that the tumor was malignant. The authors performed radical hepatectomy combined with regional lymphadenectomy. Immunohistochemical staining showed that atypical cells in the tumor were positive for pan-cytokeratin (CK-pan) and vimentin but negative for hepatocyte paraffin 1 (HepPar-1). Taken together, these findings indicated a final definitive diagnosis of SICC. After surgery, the patient had been taken Huaier granules (20g tid po) as anti-cancer therapy. There are some controversial issues in the diagnosis and treatment of this case; 1- Why did you perform surgery quickly without confirming the diagnosis of MRI?CT?Ultrasonography? 2- According to current medical literature we know that sarcomatous change often occurs in several epithelial tumors (including HCC). Did you confirm the histopathologic diagnosis of the case? Did you use hepatocellular carcinoma markers such as Glypican-3 or did you confirm the SICC diagnosis with a liver histopathology specialist? 3- The Huaier granules in preventing the development of tumor recurrence should not be determined by a case report. Please revise the title, abstract and main text. Thank you for giving

opportunity to review this case report.