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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 73077

Title: Radiomics Signature: A Potential Biomarker for β-Arrestin1 Phosphorylation Prediction in Hepatocellular Carcinoma

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 00505584
Position: Editorial Board
Academic degree: FACS, MD
Professional title: Full Professor, Professor, Surgical Oncologist
Reviewer's Country/Territory: France
Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-11-09

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-11-09 13:18

Reviewer performed review: 2021-11-12 14:11

Review time: 3 Days

Scientific quality	[Y] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[Y] Grade A: Priority publishing [ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [Y] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y] Yes [ ] No

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Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [ ] Anonymous [Y] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a well-written and interesting article examining the role of radiomics as a potential biomarker for β-Arrestin1 phosphorylation prediction in patients with Hepatocellular Carcinoma. Although MVI was analyzed in your study, no mention of this previous paper that created a radiomics normogram to help predict MVI. Please reference this in your paper. Could this normogram have affected your results? Ma X, Wei J, Gu D, Zhu Y, Feng B, Liang M, Wang S, Zhao X, Tian J. Preoperative radiomics nomogram for microvascular invasion prediction in hepatocellular carcinoma using contrast-enhanced CT. Eur Radiol. 2019 Jul;29(7):3595-3605. doi: 10.1007/s00330-018-5985-y. Epub 2019 Feb 15. PMID: 30770969. Another paper on Radiomics and MVI prediction also includes: Xu X, Zhang HL, Liu QP, Sun SW, Zhang J, Zhu FP, Yang G, Yan X, Zhang YD, Liu XS. Radiomic analysis of contrast-enhanced CT predicts microvascular invasion and outcome in hepatocellular carcinoma. J Hepatol. 2019 Jun;70(6):1133-1144. doi: 10.1016/j.jhep.2019.02.023. Epub 2019 Mar 13. PMID: 30876945. I see you referenced : Wang W, Gu D, Wei J, Ding Y, Yang L, Zhu K, Luo R, Rao SX, Tian J, Zeng M. A radiomics-based biomarker for cytokeratin 19 status of hepatocellular carcinoma with gadoxetic acid-enhanced MRI. Eur Radiol. 2020 May;30(5):3004-3014. doi: 10.1007/s00330-019-06585-y. Epub 2020 Jan 30. PMID: 32002645. Can you discuss how combing these 2 studies may help clinicians in the future? Please explain why you did not include this analysis in your study and how future studies combing findings from both your study and this one may help clinicians. If the authors believe that a study of this kind would not be beneficial, please explain why.

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Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05610821
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Surgeon, Surgical Oncologist

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-11-09

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-12-09 10:03

Reviewer performed review: 2021-12-16 12:41

Review time: 7 Days and 2 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [Y] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [Y] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y] Yes [ ] No

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Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Feng C et al provided an interesting retrospective study on the role of radiomics as a marker of β-Arrestin1 Phosphorylation in HCC. The manuscript is well written and the reading enjoyable. I do have a concern regarding the methodology of the study and the selection of patients. The authors included only patients undergoing therapy with sorafenib as an adjuvant therapy after hepatic resection, and tested the CRR model not only for the prediction of β-Arrestin1 Phosphorylation but also for the prediction of overall survival. Thist is something the model was not built for (and less interesting, as the prognosis is related to the presence to β-Arrestin1 Phosphorylation that can be assessed on the specimen, making a preoperative model is useless in this setting).