



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 74675

**Title:** Efficacy of neoadjuvant chemotherapy for initially resectable colorectal liver metastases: A retrospective cohort study

**Provenance and peer review:** Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05049410

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

**Author's Country/Territory:** Japan

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-02-01

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-02-03 09:27

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-02-06 21:15

**Review time:** 3 Days and 11 Hours

<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 Grade E: Do not publish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 type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" 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



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<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Anonymous [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] No
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### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

It is a work that explains the experience of his working group in colorectal cancer metastases. It is very well structured, explained and written. The results and conclusion are in agreement with current data that the most unfavorable patients benefit from neoadjuvant chemotherapy treatment. But it raises some questions: - Inclusion criteria for the analysis. It goes from 644 to 297, but only 61 are excluded. A flowchart could help.

- The work refers to colorectal cancer. But then only the primary is cited as right and left.
- The strategy for the treatment of synchronous tumors is not explained: liver first, primary primary, simultaneous ...
- No case of preconditioning is mentioned and whether this has been an exclusion criterion.



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**Provenance and peer review:** Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 03769068

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Adjunct Professor, Professor

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

**Author's Country/Territory:** Japan

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-02-01

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-02-01 13:59

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-02-08 12:02

**Review time:** 6 Days and 22 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input 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 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
<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



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<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**

This is a study with a clear objective. The work is well written; however, I suggest that the authors present the inclusion and exclusion criteria more clearly.



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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**Title:** Efficacy of neoadjuvant chemotherapy for initially resectable colorectal liver metastases: A retrospective cohort study

**Provenance and peer review:** Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 06245828

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

**Author's Country/Territory:** Japan

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-02-01

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-02-01 10:21

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-02-10 06:19

**Review time:** 8 Days and 19 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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<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 manuscript is well-written and describes a therapeutic benefit for the patients from NAC. A flow chart could add an extra strength and clarity for the reader



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**Provenance and peer review:** Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 03252330

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, MSc

**Professional title:** Associate Professor

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

**Author's Country/Territory:** Japan

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-02-01

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-02-02 08:51

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-02-14 23:28

**Review time:** 12 Days and 14 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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
<b>Language quality</b>	<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
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The submitted paper analyzes the effect of neoadjuvant chemotherapy for initially resectable colorectal liver metastases in a Japanese retrospective cohort; this issue is quite complex, also due to the characteristics and classification criteria used in various publications. Here the authors compare patients who underwent liver resection with individuals that received neoadjuvant chemotherapy prior to surgery. The authors were able to extract, from the entire cohort, two groups with similar characteristics (50 subjects each) and undergoing the two different therapeutic options, that were followed for up to 10 years. Within these groups, patients were also classified as low or high risk according to the presence of preoperative CEA levels, primary histological type and primary lymph node metastases. The authors detected a significantly better survival at 5 years in patients with neoadjuvant therapy. Although the data are interesting, there are some points that need to be clarified: Patients' characteristics before the propensity score matching should be reported in a table. The number of the patients still present in the various groups in the Kaplan-Meier curve. Although the numbers are quite small, did the authors observe any difference among the various treatments?