

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 86496

Title: Long-term efficacy and predictors of pembrolizumab-based regimens in patients with advanced esophageal cancer in the real world

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06140484

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Research Associate

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-07-27

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-09-15 08:54

Reviewer performed review: 2023-09-24 15:21

Review time: 9 Days and 6 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 Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation

Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input 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

Although pembrolizumab combined with chemotherapy has been proven effective as first-line therapy in patients with advanced esophageal cancer. Few trials have assessed the safety and efficacy of this treatment in patients with locally advanced disease. This real-world clinical study assessed the efficacy and safety of pembrolizumab in neoadjuvant therapy, concurrent chemoradiotherapy and first-line therapy for ESCC. The work was logically designed and nicely described. They showed that pembrolizumab combined with chemotherapy or radiotherapy resulted in favorable long-term survival in patients with locally advanced or metastatic ESCC, with safe and manageable long-term AEs. I evaluate this clinical study includes so valuable information for the physicians to manage ESCC. For these reasons, I think this manuscript is appropriate for publication. However, some minor revisions need to be performed before publishing: 1) The inclusion and exclusion criteria can be more detailed. 2) Please add a detailed figure legend that provides a clear and comprehensive description of the information presented in the figure for all figures, to keep the reader understanding without having to refer back to any other portion of the manuscript.

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Title: Long-term efficacy and predictors of pembrolizumab-based regimens in patients with advanced esophageal cancer in the real world

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06120674

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-07-27

Reviewer chosen by: Yu-Lu Chen

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-09-14 10:21

Reviewer performed review: 2023-09-25 07:06

Review time: 10 Days and 20 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
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	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript's overall structure is complete and contains a title, abstract, keywords, core tip, introduction, materials and methods and results, discussion, article highlights, and references. The scientific question emphasizes the predictive factors for treatment outcomes following therapy with immune checkpoint inhibitors. This is presented in the introduction section, along with the relevant background, rationale, aim, significant findings, and potential significance of the study. Therefore, this section is suitable to attract readers' attention. The Study design and therapeutic regimen adopted in the paper are presented in the Methods section. Besides, the manuscript provides adequate details of methods. The data and results are reliable and indicated by the information presented in the study. However, some of the results are only described in the text, the content of the table is relatively small, and more data-related forms need to be added. The manuscript interprets the findings adequately and appropriately, highlighting the key points concisely, clearly, and logically. The results and their relevance to the literature are stated clearly. The discussion accurately presents the study's scientific significance and relevance to clinical practice. The conclusion is presented. This section



**Baishideng
Publishing
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA
Telephone: +1-925-399-1568
E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
<https://www.wjgnet.com>

should be ameliorated to inform the readers briefly about the contributions of the data to the field. Besides, the future research directions should be given in detail. The manuscript cites all critical, relevant, and timely references. There is no indication of academic misconduct in the study. The manuscript contributes to improving long-term survival in patients with locally advanced or metastatic ESCC. The manuscript describes an essential direction of research. The title of the manuscript does not contain grammatical errors. (13) The manuscript falls within the scope of WJG. The language of the paper needs to reach the standard of publishing, and minor revisions are required. Peer-reviewer's Conclusion: The content of the manuscript has value for publication.