

Reviewer #1

In this case report, the authors reported the traditional Chinese medicine effectively treat a 71-year-old man with metastatic colon cancer. The paper is interesting and suitable for the Journal.

Reply: Thank you for recognizing our research.

Reviewer #2

It is an interesting case report, as it opens a perspective for a clinical trial that could test the efficacy of TCM in colon cancer or other cancer too. Nevertheless it can not be published in its present form. It could be considered for publication after major revision that could address the following remarks: 1) You can not write ">12 year history" etc. The authors could write approximately 12 or 15 years (the closer) 2) Tumor biopsy "suggested" adenocarcinoma. Should be changed to revealed. 3) The tumor stage at diagnosis is not stated 4) The oncology plan after resection is not stated. The authors write "Chemotherapy - related liver damage developed slowly". After which scheme? 5) The conclusion is over statement. TCM was given as an adjuvant treatment that could have the role of placebo. The right conclusion is that maybe as an adjuvant treatment TCM could aid in the management of colon cancer. Further studies are needed in order to confirm the therapeutic potential of TCM in colon cancer 6) Many syntax, grammar and vocabulary errors, as "transverse colon completely smooth". 7) The surgery detailed prescription does not offer anything and should be omitted.

Reply to 1&2: We have changed them as you recommended.

Reply to 3: The stage was added T2N2bM1a.

Reply to 4: The patient received eight 21-day cycles of adjuvant chemotherapy with oxaliplatin and capecitabine after recurrence, the Chemotherapy - related liver damage developed slowly.

Reply to 5: we have changed the conclusion. researches have shown that herbal medicines have the effect of anti-tumor, the herbals mentioned in our formula such as Shancigu, Daxueteng, Baijiangcao (11. Wang Y, Tang J, Sun P, Lin SH, Zhang X. Effect of Pleurotus eryngii extract on proliferation and apoptosis of human colon cancer SW480 cells. Chinese Journal of Basic Traditional Chinese Medicine, 2021; 27(11): 1754-1758.

12. Yang H, Cheung MK, Yue GG, Leung PC, Wong CK, Lau CB. Integrated Network Pharmacology Analysis and In Vitro Validation Revealed the Potential Active Components and Underlying Mechanistic Pathways of Herba Patriniae in Colorectal Cancer. Molecules. 2021 Oct 5;26(19):6032.)

Reply to 6: The vocabulary errors have been corrected.

Reply to 7: The details have been omitted.

Reviewer #3

1- Although the authors did mention it, 7 months period of follow up is not enough for diagnosing full remission! The risk of colorectal cancer recurrence is highest within the first five years following your diagnosis. About 60% to 80% of recurrence happens within the first two years² after resection and over 90% within the first five years. 2- The authors still need to closely follow up the patient and publish updates regarding the progress and prognosis of this particular patient! 3- The active principles of the Chinese medicines used need to be thoroughly discussed.

Reply to 1&2: We were following the patient, he still live with a high quantity of life and have not found the hint of the recurrence.

Reply to 3: We added more references about the anti-tumor function of the main herbs such as Shancigu and Baijiangcao to discuss the mechanism.