

Thursday, October 8, 2015

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**Title: Diffusion-Weighted MR Imaging in Cancer: Reported ADC, in-vitro and in-vivo Reproducibility**

Authors: Maysam M. Jafar, Arman Parsai and Marc E. Miquel

### **First reviewer**

**Reviewer's code:** 00289473

**Comments:** The paper topic is very interesting and the paper is clearly written. The paper search criteria/strategy should be clarified.

Answers to reviewer's comments:

- The paper search criteria/ strategy has been described and highlighted in section 4 (**Variability of Published ADC values in Normal Tissue**) on page 10 of the revised manuscript.

### **Second reviewer**

**Reviewer's code:** 00225289

**Comments:** This paper reviews and summarise important issues on Diffusion-Weighted MR Imaging. It is comprehensive and clearly written. I have only a few minor suggestions: 1. title, the current title suggests the paper is focused on reproducibility of the ADC values. This paper is more than that, so the authors can modify the title so that it is more inclusive. 2. the abstract is written in an introduction manner, it will be more helpful to add some solid information, particularly the conclusion and recommendation. Pls re-write the abstract. 3. methodology of this paper. pls describe how did the authors select this 115 studies, and why the these 115 studies would represent a good overview? 4. Gallbladder: pls discuss whether the ROI is placed over the wall or biliary liquid and potential partial volume effect.

Answers to reviewer's comments:

- The title has been changed from “Diffusion-Weighted MR Imaging in Cancer: How reproducible are ADC values? “ to “Diffusion-Weighted MR Imaging in Cancer: Reported ADC, in-vitro and in-vivo Reproducibility”.
- The abstract has been re-written and now includes solid information from the conclusion and recommendation. This is highlighted in the revised manuscript.
- The paper search criteria/ strategy has been described and highlighted in section 4 (**Variability of Published ADC values in Normal Tissue**) on page 10 of the revised manuscript. This includes a discussion on why these 115 studies would represent a good overview.
- This has been discussed in section 4.5 (Gallbladder) and it is highlighted in the revised manuscript.

### **Editorial comments**

Answers to Editorial comments:

- A signed .pdf file of the conflicts of statement has been provided.
- An audio file of the core tips has been provided.
- Street address is 'West Smithfield'. There are no additional numbers or identifiers.
- PMID and DOI identifiers have been added to all references. Some references contain only a PMID or a DOI identifier.