

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

ESPS manuscript NO: 26046

Title: Immunohistochemical Analysis of the Wnt/ β -Catenin Signaling Pathway in Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Neoplasms

Reviewer's code: 00505440

Reviewer's country: Australia

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2016-03-28 15:55

Date reviewed: 2016-03-31 18:12

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a nice study. My only major concern is the inclusion of metastatic tissue in the analysis. There remain concerns that metastatic tissue does not entirely resemble the parent tissue. This, in fact, may explain the lack of effect on the survival curves. Hence, it would be worthwhile to reanalyse the data excluding the metastatic tissue.

Actually there were 88 cases included in this cohort. Eight four cases had primary tumor resection only, 3 had both primary and metastatic tumor resection, and 1 had partial hepatectomy for metastatic lesions without resection of the primary tumor. The case with hepatectomy only was not added to the total case number in the original manuscript. The error has been corrected. In addition, the above information has been added in the Abstract, Materials and Methods, and Result. I agree with the reviewer that metastatic tumors are not always the same as the primary tumors. Therefore, in this study, only immunohistochemical results from primary tumors were used for statistical analysis including survival analysis. In the Material and Methods, a sentence



BAISHIDENG PUBLISHING GROUP INC

8226 Regency Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA

Telephone: +1-925-223-8242

Fax: +1-925-223-8243

E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com

<http://www.wjgnet.com>

“Immunohistochemical results from primary tumor were used for statistical analysis” has been added. In addition, to further clarify the confusion, “primary tumor(s)” has been added in multiple places in the Abstract and Results. One of the cases with nuclear β -catenin accumulation was from a patient who received metastasectomy only. That error has been corrected in the Abstract, Materials and Methods, and Results. All the corrections are highlighted in yellow.

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

ESPS manuscript NO: 26046

Title: Immunohistochemical Analysis of the Wnt/ β -Catenin Signaling Pathway in Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Neoplasms

Reviewer's code: 00058446

Reviewer's country: China

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2016-03-28 15:55

Date reviewed: 2016-04-17 22:19

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This study was to investigate the role of the Wnt/ β -Catenin pathway in pancreatic neuroendocrine neoplasms (PanNENs) with tissue microarrays immunohistochemically labeled with antibodies to β -catenin, E-cadherin, APC, chromogranin and synaptophysin. Dysregulation of the Wnt/ β -catenin pathway was present in some pancreatic neuroendocrine neoplasms (PanNENs). 1. Poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinomas including small cell carcinoma and large cell neuroendocrine carcinomas were excluded from this study. Why? 2. Immunohistochemical labeling for β -catenin, E-cadherin and APC was compared between PanNENs and normal pancreas using Student T test. The results of Immunohistochemical labeling was qualitative data, whether the Student T test is suitable for statistical analysis?

1. Poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinomas including small cell carcinoma and large cell neuroendocrine carcinomas were excluded from this study. Why?

Poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinomas of the pancreas are considered a different disease from well-differentiated pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors. They have very different morphologic, molecular and biologic features. As a matter of fact, treatments for these 2 diseases are very different. Therefore, we did not include poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinomas in this study. We have added a sentence “as they are known to have very different molecular and biologic features from well-differentiated tumors^[3,4]” following “Poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinomas including small cell carcinomas and large cell neuroendocrine carcinomas were excluded from this study in the Results”.

2. Immunohistochemical labeling for β -catenin, E-cadherin and APC was compared between PanNENs and normal pancreas using Student T test.

Thank you for pointing out. It was an error. It is Fisher's exact test. This has been corrected in Materials and Methods.