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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

ESPS manuscript NO: 32358

Title: Detecting circulating tumor material and digital imaging during pancreatic cancer progression

Reviewer's code: 00001832

Reviewer's country: Germany

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2017-01-07 16:57

Date reviewed: 2017-01-07 23:15

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 is a well written and rather extensive manuscript of circulating tumor material and digital imaging during progression of pancreatic cancer. The relevant literature is cited and discussed. I have only one comment. Since the authors put a focus on cancer progression, the recent paper by Notta et al., Nature 2016 (doi:10.1038/nature19823) should be cited and discussed. This paper puts forward a different theory about pancreatic cancer progression, which is relevant in this context. **The results of Notta et al. are discussed and integrated into the current understanding of PC development.**



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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

ESPS manuscript NO: 32358

Title: Detecting circulating tumor material and digital imaging during pancreatic cancer progression

Reviewer's code: 00008736

Reviewer's country: Germany

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2017-01-07 16:57

Date reviewed: 2017-01-16 00:35

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" 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 is an excellent Review which concisely summarized the current Status of pancreatic Cancer diagnosis. All relevant Areas are sufficiently covered. There are no further comments on this Review.



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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

ESPS manuscript NO: 32358

Title: Detecting circulating tumor material and digital imaging during pancreatic cancer progression

Reviewer's code: 03471272

Reviewer's country: Japan

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2017-01-07 16:57

Date reviewed: 2017-01-18 08:14

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" 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 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

In this review, the authors investigated the development and usefulness of circulating tumor cells and digital pathology in the pancreatic cancer diagnosis and monitoring. This is an interesting review highlighting 2 advanced technologies. It would be better to provide more detailed information about 2 technologies. For example, both cytology and biopsy specimens are applicable for digital pathology and how to detect circulating tumor cells. **Detailed reviews on these two technologies already exist elsewhere, the purpose of this manuscript is to highlight how these two technologies integrate into recent understanding of how PC develops.**



ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

ESPS manuscript NO: 32358

Title: Detecting circulating tumor material and digital imaging during pancreatic cancer progression

Reviewer's code: 03699987

Reviewer's country: United Kingdom

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2017-01-07 16:57

Date reviewed: 2017-01-24 06:33

Table with 4 columns: CLASSIFICATION, LANGUAGE EVALUATION, SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT, CONCLUSION. It contains checkboxes for various quality metrics like 'Grade A: Excellent', 'Duplicate publication', and 'Plagiarism'.

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting manuscript. I am including some comments which may assist the authors in improving their manuscript. Abstract: Digital imaging is mentioned within the title, but there is no mention of it within the abstract. This has been rectified. Introduction: On page 4, I suggest adding the reference for Neoptolemos et al ASCO 2016 (ESPAC-4 clinical trial of adjuvant gemcitabine/capecitabine in patients with resected pancreas cancer) - following mention of adjuvant chemotherapy in third sentence. This reference has been added. Define FOLFIRINOX at first use on page 4. The definition was clarified. Section on "Detecting Tumor cells in circulation" is very long (approximately 7 pages). I suggest adding in some subheadings to break up all the text. Additional subheadings were created for both the "Circulating Tumor Cells" and "Exosomes" Sections. On page 16, 5-fluorouracil is defined again. No need, as defined previously. This was changed to 5-FU. On page 18, I suggest adding a reference for Zill OA et al 2015 - "Cell-Free DNA Next-Generation Sequencing in Pancreatobiliary Carcinomas" also at the bottom of the page. Zill et al. reference was added. Reference for Lewis AR et al 2016 "Pancreatic cancer: Are "liquid biopsies" ready for



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prime-time?", could also be included. **Lewis et al. reference was added.** Maybe alter heading "Concluding paragraph" to "Conclusion", as there are two paragraphs, unless of course required by the journal. **This section was renamed "Conclusions" because it contains two paragraphs with separate messages.** I can't see references to tables within the body of the manuscript, but maybe I am missing it. **Tables were rearranged to follow the order in which they are mentioned in the manuscript, references to the tables are made within the manuscript as requested.** Please include description of abbreviations at bottom of table 3. **Descriptions of abbreviations are now provided in all Tables.**