

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 38690

**Title:** Multi-kinase inhibitor-associated hand-foot skin reaction as a predictor of outcomes in patients with hepatocellular carcinoma treated with sorafenib

**Reviewer's code:** 03647881

**Reviewer's country:** Taiwan

**Science editor:** Xue-Jiao Wang

**Date sent for review:** 2018-03-19

**Date reviewed:** 2018-03-26

**Review time:** 7 Days

| SCIENTIFIC QUALITY                                | LANGUAGE QUALITY  | CONCLUSION   | PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS                      |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent       | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing       | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept                    | Peer-Review:                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language | (High priority)                                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good | polishing   | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair            | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of           | (General priority)                                 | Peer-reviewer's expertise on the              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not          | language polishing  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision | topic of the manuscript:                      |
| publish   | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision            | <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced             |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection                 | <input type="checkbox"/> General              |
|   |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> No expertise         |
|   |   |  | Conflicts-of-Interest:                        |
|   |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                  |
|   |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> No                   |

### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. The authors showed the median cumulative dose was 20,000mg. Does the cumulative dose have difference between the two groups (the intervention group and non-intervention group)? If the patients in the intervention group take the higher dose

which may induce more severe AEs than non-intervention group, they may get the better OS just because of the higher dosage. 2. If possible, the authors can clarify that all patients enrolled in this study receive no other treatment in the same time because some physicians indeed choose the sorafenib therapy combined with other therapeutic strategy such like transarterial chemoembolization or radiotherapy for the longer time to disease progression or OS.[1,2] 3. In this study, the sample size is a weak point. A meta-analysis was published this year which included 12 cohort studies with 1017 participants and found the similar conclusion, the HFSR is a beneficial indicator for HCC patients receiving sorafenib.[3] Referenece: 1. Li J, Liu W, Zhu W, Wu Y, Wu B. Transcatheter hepatic arterial chemoembolization and sorafenib for hepatocellular carcinoma: a meta-analysis of randomized, double-blind controlled trials. *Oncotarget* 2017 Jul 18; 8(35): 59602-59608. 2. Wada Y, Takami Y, Matsushima H, Tateishi M, Ryu T, Yoshitomi M, et al. The safety and efficacy of combination therapy of sorafenib and radiotherapy for advanced hepatocellular carcinoma: a retrospective study. *Intern Med*. 2017 Dec 27. 3. Wang P, Tan G, Li W, Zhai B, Sun X. Hand-foot skin reaction is a beneficial indicator of sorafenib therapy for patients with hepatocellular carcinoma: a systemic review and meta-analysis. *Expert Rev Gastroenterol Hepatol*. 2018 Jan; 12(1): 1-8.

## INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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