

Comments from Reviewer 1:

This is an interesting manuscript that aimed to evaluate the association between second primary malignancy and radiotherapy. In general the paper is well written; I would suggest a language revision for typo and grammar errors (eg the title of the paragraph "References" instead of "Reference" and so on). Please delete the last part of the discussion as it is reported in the Conclusion paragraph. The Methods section is clear and well described, as well as the results. Tables and figures are good. I would suggest to include in the discussion more reference on the topic (e.g. Martling A et al Br J Surg. 2017 ; Grosso G et al BMC Surg. 2012; Biondi A World J Gastrointest Surg. 2016). I would also include a conclusion statement on the future perspectives based on the results.

Answers:

Thanks for your valuable comments. We have corrected type and grammar errors as we can. We also added more references as you suggested and added section of future prospective. Conclusion paragraph was removed per Journal's requirements.

Comments from Reviewer 2:

This article has a unique point which is to compare preoperative long and short course radiation therapy. But follow-up period is relatively short.

Answers:

Thanks for comments. We had used longest longitudinal data as we can obtain from NHIRD. Also, more than 3500 patients were still in follow-up for

10 years.

Comments from Reviewer 3:

Good article, well written. The conclusions are based on a very big sample size. I'm surprised that radiotherapy is not associated with SPM incidence. Good to hear that as many of patients are treated with irradiation. The manuscript meets the requirements of ethics and the requirements of biostatistics. The article cites appropriately the latest, important and authoritative references in the introduction and discussion sections. The figures, diagrams and tables are clear, good quality and appropriately illustrative of the paper contents. Well done.

Answers:

Thanks for honor! We'll keep working hard.