

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

**Manuscript NO:** 53812

**Title:** Perineural invasion as a prognostic factor in patients with stage I-III rectal cancer -  
5 year follow up

**Reviewer's code:** 03018154

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Attending Doctor, Doctor

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Author's country:** Serbia

**Manuscript submission date:** 2019-12-30

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-12-31 13:18

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-01-06 14:12

**Review time:** 6 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 type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This study investigated the prognostic role of PNI and LVI in rectal cancer. Several questions should be addressed. 1. The prognostic value of PNI in CRC has been elucidated in many studies in recent decades, how this study gives new insights into this issue? 2. How did the pathologists detect PNI and LVI in this study? Sometimes, detection of PNI and LVI is quite difficult with H&E stained sections, and mistakes might be made. For this reason, immunohistochemical staining should be employed to detect PNI and LVI precisely. 3. This study concluded that adjuvant therapy should be reserved for patients with PNI and LVI in order to improve prognosis. To reach this conclusion, the impacts of adjuvant therapy on survival rates of these patients ought to be investigated, but this study did not provide such data.

## **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

### ***Google Search:***

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ [ Y ] No

### ***BPG Search:***

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ [ Y ] No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

**Manuscript NO:** 53812

**Title:** Perineural invasion as a prognostic factor in patients with stage I-III rectal cancer -  
5 year follow up

**Reviewer's code:** 05117581

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Author's country:** Serbia

**Manuscript submission date:** 2019-12-30

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-01-02 11:40

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-01-20 02:35

**Review time:** 17 Days and 14 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The article only analyzes the five-year survival rate (OS). I recommend that the authors increase the recurrence-free survival (RFS) rate and the distance failure-free survival (DFFS) rate. And further analyze association between perineural invasion (PNI) and recurrence or metastasis using Chi-square test.

**INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT*****Google Search:***

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

***BPG Search:***

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

**Manuscript NO:** 53812

**Title:** Perineural invasion as a prognostic factor in patients with stage I-III rectal cancer -  
5 year follow up

**Reviewer's code:** 05260592

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's country:** Romania

**Author's country:** Serbia

**Manuscript submission date:** 2019-12-30

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-01-01 19:23

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-01-23 18:39

**Review time:** 21 Days and 23 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

I have following some comments: 1. Introduction should be slightly modified (too many forms like "Bearing that in mind"). 2. In the Result section information included in Figures and Tables should be excluded. 3. Please add the limitations of the study. 4. Try to calculate the disease free survival (DFS) rate in addition to overall survival.

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

##### ***Google Search:***

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

##### ***BPG Search:***

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No