

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 53980

**Title:** Liver-directed therapies for liver metastases from neuroendocrine neoplasms: Can laser ablation play any role?

**Reviewer's code:** 02832130

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-01-02

**Reviewer chosen by:** Le Zhang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-02-16 02:37

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-02-18 10:32

**Review time:** 2 Days and 7 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology Manuscript Type: OPINION

REVIEW Manuscript Title: Liver-directed therapies for liver metastases from neuroendocrine neoplasms: can laser ablation play any role? Manuscript No. WJG-53980

Comments: There are many reports about local ablation of liver cancer. For small liver lesions, PEI and RAF are generally accepted. However, there are few series of unresectable LM from NEN treated with LA. The author of this manuscript evaluated the value of Laser ablation (LA) in the treatment of liver metastases (LM) from neuroendocrine neoplasms (NEN). The subject of this manuscript is of value, but there are a few of defects need to be modified. **ABSTRACT** Key words section 1. Please pay attention to the consistency of terms. Should the author change: Liver-directed therapies to: Liver-directed therapies. **IS THERE ANY ROLE FOR LASER ABLATION IN THE TREATMENT OF LM FROM NEN** section 2. Twenty-one patients with a total of 189 LM with long-axis diameter ranging from 5 mm to 35 mm (median 19 mm, mean  $17.9 \pm 6.4$  mm) underwent ultrasound (US)-guided LA in 41 ablation sessions..... One grade 4 complication was observed (0.53%): a bowel perforation that was successfully managed by surgery..... I don't understand how the complication rate is calculated firstly. Is it 1 divided by 189? Should the author change it to: 0.53%(1/189) . It's easy for readers to understand. 3.Are there any other complications? 4.In evaluating the application value of LA, the author mainly referred to a paper with more cases (REFERENCE 51). Should the author summarize other similar research results in this paper and make a comprehensive discussion. 5. Should the author briefly discuss the situations in which LA needs to be combined with other therapies, such as the classical TACE. 6. In the author's reference study, enhanced CT was used to follow up LM patients treated with LA. At present, MRI is often used to evaluate the response of local treatment of tumor



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(especially TACE), Can the author briefly discuss the application value of MRI in this field (LA).

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 53980

**Title:** Liver-directed therapies for liver metastases from neuroendocrine neoplasms: Can laser ablation play any role?

**Reviewer's code:** 03270441

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-01-02

**Reviewer chosen by:** Le Zhang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-02-21 13:38

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-02-27 11:02

**Review time:** 5 Days and 21 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

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

The authors describe and analyze a unique ablation technique for metastatic liver tumors - laser ablation. An attempt was made to derive the advantages of laser ablation from a limited number of studies, including case report article. As the authors note in their paper, the small number of cases of liver metastasis caused by NEN makes it difficult to conduct a large sample prospective study, the limited literature cited by the authors makes it difficult for the authors to draw their "Conclusions". In particular, only RFA was analyzed in this paper, and there was no literature comparing the advantages and disadvantages of LA and RFA in protecting liver function. No data of microwave ablation and cryoablation are analyzed. It makes it impossible to draw the conclusion of "sparing the liver parenchyma than any other liver - directed therapy". The authors provide a lengthy discussion of vase-based therapies, including TAE, TACE, and TARE, However it is difficult to see this part related with the main idea of this manuscript. In short, with limited literature provided in this manuscript, the authors cannot draw their "Conclusions", especially the part of "sparing the liver parenchyma than any other liver - directed therapy".

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 53980

**Title:** Liver-directed therapies for liver metastases from neuroendocrine neoplasms: Can laser ablation play any role?

**Reviewer's code:** 03726743

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** FACP, MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Director

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** United States

**Author's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-01-02

**Reviewer chosen by:** Le Zhang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-02-21 14:49

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-02-27 22:52

**Review time:** 6 Days and 8 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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

In the manuscript entitled, “Liver-directed therapies for liver metastases from neuroendocrine neoplasms: can laser ablation play any role?”, the authors present an Opinion Review on the aforementioned topic. The manuscript topic is timely and interesting. The major concern is the presentation, e.g. with some English language issues and extremely long paragraphs that would benefit from being broken up/subsectioned more. The abstract should also more clearly state what the goal of the opinion review is/what it will cover. Lastly, consider revising to “Liver-directed therapies for liver metastases from neuroendocrine neoplasms: does laser ablation play a role?” and adding a figure or table to help the reader.

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 53980

**Title:** Liver-directed therapies for liver metastases from neuroendocrine neoplasms: Can laser ablation play any role?

**Reviewer's code:** 00041957

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Author's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-01-02

**Reviewer chosen by:** Le Zhang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-02-22 18:16

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-03-04 14:36

**Review time:** 10 Days and 20 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No





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

The authors consider the possibility of carrying out a cytoreduction of unresectable neuroendocrine liver metastases and examine the catheter-based treatments and the ablation techniques. Their preference is for percutaneous laser ablation through a Chiba needle. This technique seems to be safe and to allows the treatment of multiple lesions up to 4-5 cm in diameter. The paper is clear and the authors' opinion based on a large number of cases. However, for a more exhaustive examination of the topic, some clarifications should be made by the Authors: is it laser ablation less invasive in confront of radio-frequency ablation? Is it possible to treat metastases in each liver segment? Is it possible to treat metastases near large vessels or subglissonian without complications? Can it play a role and when a laparoscopic transperitoneal approach?