



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 54827

**Title:** Monocyte-to-lymphocyte ratio as a prognostic factor in peripheral whole blood samples of colorectal cancer patients

**Reviewer's code:** 03538879

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Chief Doctor, Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-02-20

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-02-21 05:49

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-02-24 07:52

**Review time:** 3 Days and 2 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" 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**

Author presented an interesting finding in this manuscript. Through simple blood routine test, the prognosis of CRC could be predicted. You may find my comments below: 1. In the second paragraph of INTRODUCTION, author mentioned "In another study, monocyte count was an independent factor correlated with survival in patients with metastasis from colorectal cancer". Previous study has demonstrated the clinical significance of monocyte count, so why did author choose a relatively complicated factor? What about the necessity? 2. Authors employed the ROC to estimate the cut-off value. The description should be more detailed, not just give simple values. In addition, I noticed authors evaluate the prognostic value of selected factors in pre-operation and post-operation separately. However, only single cut-off value was given for each indicator. How did authors consider this arrangement? Why not set two cut-off values for pre-operation and post-operation separately? 3. In the last paragraph of section "Blood sample examination", authors said " For DFS analysis, we divided the study group into two subgroups - with score 1 and score 2+3". How did authors determine this division principle? Why not divided into three or four groups? 4. In the first paragraph of section "Correlation between monocyte count, MLR, NLR-PLR status, PLT-NLR status and clinicopathological variables of CRC patients" in RESULTS, authors mentioned "The correlations between monocyte count and MLR and anatomoclinical variables were published previously". Please supplement the corresponding reference. 5. In the first paragraph of section "Prognostic values of monocyte count, MLR, NLR-PLR status and PLT-NLR status in CRC patients" in RESULTS, authors said "Patients with low monocyte count in preoperative blood samples lived approximately 12.3 months (3-year survival) and 28.3 months (5-year survival) as compared to the high group that amounted to 8.25 months (3-year DFS time) and 20.3 months (5-year DFS time)". The previous "3-year



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survival" and "5-year survival" meant DFS or OS? 6. Authors should review the abbreviations again throughout the manuscript. Some abbreviations did not give the full name when they first appeared. And some spelling mistakes existed, for example, In the first paragraph of section "Correlation between monocyte count, MLR, NLR-PLR status, PLT-NLR status and clinicopathological variables of CRC patients" in RESULTS, what is the "PLR-NLR"?



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**Title:** Monocyte-to-lymphocyte ratio as a prognostic factor in peripheral whole blood samples of colorectal cancer patients

**Reviewer's code:** 00073640

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Research Scientist

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

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

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<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 title/subject is very interesting and topical, the manuscript is well structured and well written. However, there are some sentences that need improvement - to improve the manuscript I suggest the following: - Please be aware of abbreviations - MLR, PLT-NLR, NLR-PLR - the authors introduced these abbreviations more than once, specially MLR can be found in abstract, introduction, materials, results and even in discussion - please correct - Page 6 - materials and method section: Authors stated: "The mean age of the patients was 67.5 years, including 40 patients <60 years-old and 120 patients ≥60 years-old." What did you mean by that? It is a very confusing statement. - Page 9: Results section - Correlation between monocyte count : Authors stated: "The correlations between monocyte count and MLR and anatomoclinical variables were published previously." Please add reference. Anatomoclinical - is this word correct? - Page 11: third line from the bottom up - CC patients - did you mean CRC patients? - Please be aware of abbreviation of CRC patients - authors introduce CRC abbreviation but in the manuscript they sometimes use CRC patients and sometimes colorectal cancer patients - specially in discussion section - At the end of the discussion section authors need to include explanation about potential limitations of the study (for instance sample size etc) and conclude appropriately - Figure 1B is missing - please correct - Numbers and letters on all Figures 1 and Figures 2 are too small - please correct



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**Manuscript NO:** 54827

**Title:** Monocyte-to-lymphocyte ratio as a prognostic factor in peripheral whole blood samples of colorectal cancer patients

**Reviewer's code:** 05225202

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-02-20

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<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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
<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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" 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**

See the attached file.



**RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT**

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

**Manuscript NO:** 54827

**Title:** Monocyte-to-lymphocyte ratio as a prognostic factor in peripheral whole blood samples of colorectal cancer patients

**Reviewer’s code:** 05225202

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

**Author’s Country/Territory:** Poland

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<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<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**



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None.



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

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<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<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



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The revised manuscript has answered my concerns. I currently only have one suggestion. Authors said "The description of the correlation was added to the manuscript that is reviewing in the another journal" in response letter. Authors could update the relevant reference after acceptance of the other manuscript.