



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

Manuscript NO: 61293

Title: Should we resect colorectal cancer in patients over the age of 85?

Reviewer's code: 00502743

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Doctor, Professor, Research Scientist, Senior Lecturer

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Argentina

Author's Country/Territory: Australia

Manuscript submission date: 2020-12-01

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ru Fan

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-12-02 14:34

Reviewer performed review: 2020-12-02 16:32

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I fully agree with the criteria of the authors, since I do not believe that only age is a limitation for patients to face surgeries. Cancer staging, the coexistence of serious associated diseases or other possible comorbidities that can further increase the risk of the procedure should be taken into account at the moment when indicating surgery and its approach modality. From my particular point of view, elderly patients who have exceeded the expected average lifespan for each country, rather than being excluded as a frail vulnerable group, should be considered as individuals with a privileged biology, which has allowed them to overcome such delicate barrier throughout their lives. Taking the necessary precautions and special care, I believe that surgeons should not deny surgical treatment to this age group or abandon them to the uncared evolution of their disease. Every human being deserves a new opportunity as long as they are in an adequate position to enjoy it.



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

Manuscript NO: 61293

Title: Should we resect colorectal cancer in patients over the age of 85?

Reviewer's code: 03765445

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: FRCS (Gen Surg), MBChB, MCh

Professional title: Assistant Professor, Surgeon

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Singapore

Author's Country/Territory: Australia

Manuscript submission date: 2020-12-01

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ru Fan

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-12-04 08:08

Reviewer performed review: 2020-12-04 09:44

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<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
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In the abstract, should start with an introduction. Under Methods, should explain the time period selected and also the total number of patients in that cohort. Similarly under Results, there was no mention of the number of cases, $n=?$. Introduction, second paragraph, line 4 selected... Comments, age >85 group is still within age >80 group. Under Materials and methods, demographic and comorbidity characteristics, any use of Charlson Comorbidity Index? The font for Table 1 is very small for reading and can improve. Under Results, Patient demographics, since the two groups have little comorbidity difference and one would expect similar surgical outcomes, have you look into frailty index between the two groups instead? Any comments on the use of ERAS in colorectal surgery at your unit? Under Discussion, how would you address the limitation of your study including selection bias at the outset on those patients who were not offered upfront surgery and any suggestion to improve future studies? Those who were offered surgery would have deem fitter and therefore unlikely to show statistical difference between the 2 different age groups but more importantly to select those fit enough to undergo surgery regardless of age. Would you not consider Charlson comorbidity index and frailty index essential in the elderly cohort in selecting those suitable for surgery?



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

Manuscript NO: 61293

Title: Should we resect colorectal cancer in patients over the age of 85?

Reviewer's code: 01213078

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Professor, Surgeon

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Australia

Manuscript submission date: 2020-12-01

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-12-01 14:01

Reviewer performed review: 2020-12-09 13:51

Review time: 7 Days and 23 Hours

Scientific quality	<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
Language quality	<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
Conclusion	<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
Re-review	<input checked="" 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



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript reported the outcomes of patients over 85 undergoing colorectal cancer resection in single institution. Results showed there was no difference in length of stay, severity of complications of mortality rates compared with those aged 75-85 years group. The authors further analyzed patients over 85 with open or laparoscopic surgery and found there was no significant differences between length of stay, complication rates or mortality rates between the two techniques. The findings of this manuscript provides meaningful information for management colon cancer in old patients. The BMI data in table I need to be double checked.



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

Manuscript NO: 61293

Title: Should we resect colorectal cancer in patients over the age of 85?

Reviewer's code: 00505679

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Spain

Author's Country/Territory: Australia

Manuscript submission date: 2020-12-01

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ru Fan

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-12-04 09:47

Reviewer performed review: 2020-12-11 01:23

Review time: 6 Days and 15 Hours

Scientific quality	<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
Language quality	<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
Conclusion	<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
Re-review	<input checked="" 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



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I would like to express my gratitude to the authors for their excellent manuscript for the great interest and timeliness of this type of study in the colorectal surgical community. In order to better understand the manuscript, I would like to ask a series of questions and comments. -Authors should include the number of patients from each assessed group in the abstract. -The authors need to include the limitations of this study. (single institution study, etc.). -The references used in the manuscript is not very up-to date in some cases. Some recommendations: Hashida H, Mizuno R, Iwaki K, Kanbe H, Sumi T, Kawarabayashi T, Kondo M, Kobayashi H, Kaihara S. Laparoscopic Surgery for Colorectal Cancer in Super-Elderly Patients: A Single-Center Analysis. *Surg Laparosc Endosc Percutan Tech.* 2020 Nov 23. Ueda Y, Shiraishi N, Kawasaki T, Akagi T, Ninomiya S, Shiroshita H, Etoh T, Inomata M. Short- and long-term outcomes of laparoscopic surgery for colorectal cancer in the elderly aged over 80 years old versus non-elderly: a retrospective cohort study. *BMC Geriatr.* 2020 Nov 4;20(1):445.



RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

Manuscript NO: 61293

Title: Should we resect colorectal cancer in patients over the age of 85?

Reviewer's code: 01213078

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Professor, Surgeon

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Australia

Manuscript submission date: 2020-12-01

Reviewer chosen by: Chen-Chen Gao

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-01-04 10:16

Reviewer performed review: 2021-01-05 12:48

Review time: 1 Day and 2 Hours

Scientific quality	<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
Language quality	<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
Conclusion	<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
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 revised manuscript addressed reviews' comments with improved quality.