

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 66663

**Title:** Detection of circulating tumour cells in Colorectal cancer: Emerging techniques and its clinical implications

**Reviewer's code:** 03874549

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-04-01

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-04-09 13:12

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**Review time:** 21 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 checked="" 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**

Detection of circulating tumour cells (CTCs) in colorectal cancer: Emerging techniques and its clinical implications. This paper is very interesting and, in my opinion, very important also for the clinicians directly involved in the treatment of colorectal cancer. In literature, the topic is complex and unclear as concerning the methodologies of CTCs isolation and analysis. This paper provides a very good review. In literature of colorectal cancer, the clinical implications of liquid biopsies using CTCs are under investigations. This paper provides a good review. 1. Title. The title reflects the main subject of the manuscript. 2. Abstract. The abstract summarizes and reflects the concepts described in the manuscript. 3. Key words. The key words reflect the focus of the manuscript. 4. Background. The manuscript adequately describes the background, present status and significance of the study. 5. This study provides contributions useful also for clinical research progress in this field. 6. The paragraph "Circulating tumour cells and their clinical applications in colorectal cancer" should be improved. 7. Editing of Tables should be improved. 8. The list of references should include others papers on the topic. 9. Quality of manuscript organization and presentation is good, requiring minor revision of editing and grammar. In general, it is acceptable after minor changes. 1.Paragraph: Circulating tumour cells and their clinical applications in colorectal cancer,...please, change katsumo to Katsumo. 2. A reference was not included in the list of references: "Hendricks (2020) [Hendricks A, Brandt B, Geisen R, Dall K, Röder C, Schafmayer C, Becker T, Hinz S, Sebens S. Isolation and Enumeration of CTC in Colorectal Cancer Patients: Introduction of a Novel Cell Imaging Approach and Comparison to Cellular and Molecular Detection Techniques. Cancers 2020, 12, 2643; doi:10.3390/cancers12092643] used RT-qPCR for indirect CTC detection, which was already applied in previous studies on CRC patients have prognostic value.

3. Please, precise that the paper of Misale et al. is based on circulating DNA and not CTCs: “Paragraph: Circulating tumour cells and their clinical applications in colorectal cancer,...Misale et al. (2014) [Misale, S., Arena S, Lamba S, Siravegna G, Lallo A, Hobor S, Russo M et al. Blockade of EGFR and MEK intercepts heterogeneous mechanisms of acquired resistance to anti-EGFR therapies in colorectal cancer. *Sci Transl Med*, 2014. 6(224): p. 224ra26.] analysed KRAS and NRAS mutations in plasma samples of 4 patients with metastatic colorectal cancer treated with anti-EGFR antibodies and detected disease progression in three out of four patients.”. 4. Please comment and cite in the list of references the following papers: Guadagni S, Fiorentini G, De Simone M, Masedu F, Zoras O, Mackay AR, Sarti D, Papasotiriou I, Apostolou P, Catarci M, Clementi M, Ricevuto E, Bruera G. Precision oncotherapy based on liquid biopsies in multidisciplinary treatment of unresectable recurrent rectal cancer: a retrospective cohort study. *Journal of Cancer Research and Clinical Oncology* 2020; 146:205-219. Guadagni S, Clementi M, Mackay AR, Ricevuto E, Fiorentini G, Sarti D, Palumbo P, Apostolou P, Papasotiriou I, Masedu F, Valenti M, Giordano AV, Bruera G. Real-life multidisciplinary treatment for unresectable colorectal cancer liver metastases including hepatic artery infusion with chemo-filtration and liquid biopsy precision oncotherapy. Observational cohort study. *Journal of Cancer Research and Clinical Oncology* 2020; 146:1273–1290.