

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 68080

**Title:** Circulating tumor DNA dynamics analysis in a xenograft mouse model with esophageal squamous cell carcinoma

**Reviewer's code:** 04967668

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-05-14

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-06-28 07:00

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-07-01 08:33

**Review time:** 3 Days and 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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 of the manuscript »Circulating tumor DNA dynamics analysis in a xenograft mouse model« have performed a very interesting study which provides an important additional scientific background for the concept of liquid biopsy. In the short introduction section, they explain the potential clinical benefits as well as current scientific shortcomings of ctDNA based liquid biopsy. In the methods section they provide all the available relevant information regarding their human esophageal squamous cell carcinoma cell line TE11 based mouse model of cancer. All real life scenarios of different stages of cancers as well as consequences of tumor resection are well simulated as well as clearly and methodologically correctly presented. ctDNA based liquid biopsy tumor assessment method is nicely described. All the results are thoroughly and clearly presented. The discussion is objective and fair. The most clinically relevant findings of the study are pointed out and possible limitations of the study are also fairly stressed at the end of the section. The conclusions are straight and sound. The references are relevant; the sources seem reliable.