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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript NO: 74574

Title: Radiomics for differentiating tumor deposits from lymph node metastasis in rectal cancer

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03740440

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: South Korea

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-12-29

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-12-31 14:58

Reviewer performed review: 2022-01-19 02:33

Review time: 18 Days and 11 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 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



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**Peer-reviewer
statements**

Peer-Review: [] Anonymous [] Onymous

Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors reported on the results of the radiomics modelling for differentiating tumor deposits (TDs) from lymph node metastasis (LNM) in the rectal cancer patients. They concluded that radiomics of the largest peritumoral nodule can be helpful to differentiate tumor deposits from lymph node metastasis in the rectal cancer patients preoperatively. This manuscript is interesting and seems to show an useful application of radiomics. This manuscript, however, needs more explanation (minor revision) for the performance decline when used to diagnose both TDs (+) and LNM (+) patients because preoperative diagnosis of both positive patients is of great clinical significance. Authors noted the discordance between the nodules used in the training cohort and mixed groups, and small sample size of mixed group in the discussion. However, above explanations are not enough and it would be better to add other explanations. It could be useful to discuss whether the radiomics feature details of both positive cases are different from those of TDs (+) and LNM (-) patients. I hope that my comments could be helpful for both authors and readers and appreciate for the patience of editors.



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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05621530

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-12-29

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-01-25 21:54

Reviewer performed review: 2022-01-25 22:33

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 type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
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Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

has it been evaluated whether vascular infiltration on histological examination has any meaning? since these are lymph node deposits or metastases could correlate if the neoplasm follows a lymphatic pathway redundant features were randomly removed by correlation analysis how were the deleted features chosen? why randomly?