

# PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 81925

**Title:** Clinical outcomes of lenvatinib plus transarterial chemoembolization with or without programmed death receptor-1 inhibitors in unresectable hepatocellular carcinoma

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06143468
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: MD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Spain

Author's Country/Territory: China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-11-30

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review: 2022-12-05 00:35** 

Reviewer performed review: 2022-12-17 10:56

**Review time:** 12 Days and 10 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [ Y] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection



Re-review	[Y]Yes [ ]No
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous
statements	Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [ Y] No

#### SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Lenvatinib is an oral small molecule inhibitor of multiple receptor tyrosine kinases that was approved for the first-line treatment of patients with unresectable liver cancer. The overall survival with Lenvatinib was longer than that with sorafenib, and the ORR was higher than that of sorafenib in hepatitis B virus background subgroup analysis. Studies have shown that Lenvatinib has a synergistic effect with immune checkpoint inhibitors. In this study, the authors evaluated the efficacy of transarterial chemoembolization and Lenvatinib plus PD-1 inhibitors for patients with unresectable hepatocellular carcinoma. The study is overall well designed and the results are very interesting. The authors discussed the results with updated references. Minor comments: 1. There is a minor language polishing, which should be corrected. 2. Figures and tables should be edited and improved according to the journal's guideline. 3. The PubMed ID should be added to the references.



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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06143437 Position: Peer Reviewer Academic degree: MD

**Professional title:** Assistant Lecturer, Researcher

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United Kingdom

Author's Country/Territory: China

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**Reviewer accepted review: 2022-12-05 00:35** 

Reviewer performed review: 2022-12-17 10:57

Review time: 12 Days and 10 Hours

Scientific quality	[ Y] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [ Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [Y] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection



Re-review	[ ]Yes [Y]No
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous
statements	Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [ Y] No

# SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting retrospective study about the efficacy and safety of lenvatinib plus transarterial chemoembolization with or without PD-1 inhibitors in unresectable HCC. The study is well performed and the results are interesting. The conclusion is attractive, and important to the clinicians. The reviewer recommends to accept this study after a minor editing.



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Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06143355
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: N/A

**Professional title:** N/A

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United States

Author's Country/Territory: China

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Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ Y] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection



Re-review	[Y]Yes [ ]No
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous
statements	Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [ Y] No

# SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The study is designed to evaluate the efficacy and safety of TACE in combination with lenvatinib and PD-1 inhibitors in the treatment of unresectable hepatocellular carcinoma. The methods are described in detail, and the results are interesting. The authors recommend that early combination of PD-1 inhibitors has promising efficacy and manageable toxicity in patients with unresectable hepatocellular carcinoma. Overall, the manuscript is very well written. No specific comments to the authors. An acceptable study. Thank you.