

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

March 30, 2023



Dear Editors,

On behalf of all the authors, I would like to thank you for your consideration of this paper. In the revised manuscript you will find the changes that we made in response to the Reviewers. In this response to reviewer letter we also indicated how we have dealt with the Reviewers' comments.

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format.

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Manuscript Type: REVIEW

Radiomics in colon cancer patients

Current state and diagnostic applications

Riccardo Inchingolo, Cesare Maino, Roberto Cannella, Federica Vernuccio, Francesco Cortese, Michele Dezio, Pisani Antonio Rosario, Teresa Paola Giandola, Marco Gatti, Valentina Giannini, Davide Ippolito, Riccardo Faletti

Invited Manuscript: 03358964

Manuscript ID.: 83757

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewer and Editorial Office's

Comments:

Reviewer #1:

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)

Conclusion: Accept (General priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: Dear Authors, Your paper is a review about the applications of radiomics to colon cancer patients. In particular, it focuses on the current state of the art of this

technology, evaluating its application, advantages and limitations. The paper is well written and it could be considered as a stimulus towards a more in-depth evaluation of this argument. Consequently, it may be accepted for publication in present form. Sincerely,

Authors' reply: Thank you for the consideration of this paper and for your comment. The changes have been done.

Reviewer #2:

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Minor revision

Specific Comments to Authors: Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology Manuscript

Type: Review Title: Radiomics in colon cancer patients Comments

This study reviews the radiomics workflow from image acquisition and reconstruction, segmentation, feature extraction, feature selection and modeling to model validation, and the research progress of MRI radiomics in colon cancer. The subject of this manuscript is of value, but there are defects need to be modified.

Authors' reply: Thank you for the consideration of this paper and for your comment.

1. The topic of this manuscript is about the radiomics application in colon cancer. However, the term "rectal cancer" or "rectal-colon cancer" appears in many sections of this manuscript. Does the author want to discuss "colon cancer" or "CRC". The author should check and unify the terms.

Authors' reply: We'd like to thank you for raising these issues. We apologize for the lack of robustness in reporting specific details regarding which kind of studies were included in the present review. For sake of clarity and to gain readability, we edited the whole manuscript.

2. Both INTRODUCTION and RADIOMICS APPLIED TO CANCER – SUMMARY sections have the interpretation or definition of radiomics. Please check.

Authors' reply: Thank you for your comments. Considering the specific detailed section regarding radiomics, we deeply shortened the introduction paragraphs to increase consistency and readability.

3. COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY (CT) section: More recently, another breakthrough has been made using the use of delta-radiomics, i.e., the analysis of variations of the radiomics parameters. The author specifically describes delta-radiomics. It is suggested that the author introduce the concept of delta-radiomics in more detail and add references.

Authors' reply: Thank you for this comment. We better explained the concept of delta-radiomics adding proper references.

4. In this manuscript, the author summarized the efforts that have been made to develop radiomics signatures for colon cancer patient using CT, MRI and PET/CT to understand tumor biology or for the development of imaging biomarkers for diagnosis, staging, and prognosis, prediction of treatment response and diseases monitoring and surveillance in CT, MRI and PET/CT sections respectively. However, the author discussed LIVER METASTASES later, which make readers feel a

little unaccustomed in structure. Should the author consider the structure or subtitles, or explain its importance or particularity in this section.

Authors' reply: We'd like to thank you for raising these issues. We think that the specific paragraph regarding liver metastases cannot be split into the other ones. Considering its importance both in clinical and surgical practice, we decided to maintain it as separate and at the end of the whole discussion. To increase readability, we divided it into subparagraphs as follows: "diagnosis and risk assessment", "prognosis" and "treatment response". We think that now the section is clearer and more readable.

Science editor:

The manuscript has been peer-reviewed, and it's ready for the first decision.

Authors' reply: Thank you for the consideration of this paper and for your comment.

(2) Company editor-in-chief:

I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, the full text of the manuscript, the relevant ethics documents, and the English Language Certificate, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Gastroenterology, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors. Before final acceptance, uniform presentation should be used for figures showing the same or similar contents; for example, "Figure 1 Pathological changes of atrophic gastritis after treatment. A: ...; B: ...; C: ...; D: ...; E: ...; F: ...; G: ...". Please provide decomposable Figures (in which all components are movable and editable), organize them into a single PowerPoint file. Please authors are required to provide standard three-line tables, that is, only the top line, bottom line, and column line are displayed, while other table lines are hidden. The contents of each cell in the table should conform to the editing specifications, and the lines of each row or column of the table should be aligned. Do not use carriage returns or spaces to replace lines or vertical lines and do not segment cell content. Please check and confirm whether the figures are original (i.e. generated de novo by the author(s) for this paper). If the picture is 'original', the author needs to add the following copyright information to the bottom right-hand side of the picture in PowerPoint

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Authors' reply: Thank you for the consideration of this paper and for your comment. The requested changes have been done

Finally, we wish to thank the Editors and the Reviewer for their comments that helped us to increase the value of our paper.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

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