

**Manuscript NO.: 88794**

**Editorial Office, World Journal of Gastroenterology**

Dear editor:

It was a great honor that you could seriously consider our manuscript "Comparison of the Diagnostic Value of Mono-exponential, Bi-exponential, and Stretched Exponential Diffusion-weighted MRI to predict Hepatic Lymph Node Metastases in patients with colorectal liver metastases after chemotherapy". All the authors have discussed all the questions you raised thoroughly. We have carefully taken the comments into account and make improvement on this article according to each of the points raised by the reviewers. We'll try our best to meet all your requirements. The changes we made according to every point have been described in this letter.

Responses are as follows.

**Reviewer #1:**

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Minor revision

We reviewed with interest the manuscript "Comparison of the Diagnostic Value of Mono-exponential, Bi-exponential, and Stretched Exponential Diffusion-weighted MRI to predict Hepatic Lymph Node Metastases in patients with colorectal liver metastases after chemotherapy". In fact, it's an interesting work and has clinical implication, Conclusion was that developed nomogram, which incorporating the pre-treatment DDC and the short axis of the largest lymph node, can be utilized to predict the presence of hepatic lymph node metastases in CRLM patients who undergo chemotherapy prior to surgery, which provides a potential and effective strategy for the treatment of CRLM patients after chemotherapy. Comment: 1. Title and key words - well chosen. 2-The abstract summarized and reflect the described in the manuscript. 3. Introduction contains the most important data to support the importance of the study. 4. Material and methods - the paragraphs are generally well structured and explained. 5. Results section is well and clearly presented with pertinent statistics. 6. Discussion paragraph could be expanded to underline the clinical application of this study and the potential limitations. 7. Good quality of the Tables. 8. References –appropriate, latest and important. Congratulations!

**Reviewer #2:**

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Minor revision

Specific Comments to Authors: This study is very interesting. The authors compared the diagnostic efficacy of mono-exponential, bi-exponential, and stretched exponential Diffusion-weighted MRI in predicting hepatic lymph node metastases in patients with colorectal liver metastases after chemotherapy. They found that nomogram incorporating pre-DDC value calculated from SEM-DWI along with the short diameter of the largest lymph node after treatment may have potential to predict

lymph node metastasis noninvasively in CRLM patients after chemotherapy. This contributes to the decision-making process of surgical treatment for CRLM patients. The figures and tables help the readers to make a more understanding of the study. The whole manuscript is well drafted; however, some concerns have been noted including: **Minor comments:**

1. The manuscript required a minor revision, both for the language and the format.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have already engaged a professional English team to help us with the language and format revisions.

2. Caption for fig is inserted below the fig and that for table is inserted above it. The expression of the results in the figure 1 makes it difficult for readers to clearly understand the meaning of the results.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have revised in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

**Editor's suggestions:**

1 Conflict of interest statement: Academic Editor has no conflict of interest.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have added in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

2 Academic misconduct: No academic misconduct was found.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have added in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

3. Scientific quality: The authors submitted a study of comparison of the diagnostic value of mono-exponential, Bi-exponential, and stretched exponential diffusion-weighted MRI to predict hepatic lymph node metastases in patients with colorectal liver metastases after chemotherapy. The manuscript is overall qualified.

(1) Advantages and disadvantages: The reviewers have given positive peer-review reports for the manuscript. Classification: Grade B and Grade B; Language Quality: Grade B and Grade B. This study is very interesting. Title and key words-well chosen. Introduction contains the most important data to support the importance of the study. However, the manuscript required a minor revision, both for the language and the format. Caption for fig is inserted below the fig and that for table is inserted above it. The expression of the results in the figure 1 makes it difficult for readers to clearly understand the meaning of the results.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. The problem was similar as reviewer and we have revised in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

(2) Main manuscript content: The author clearly stated the purpose of the study and the research structure is complete. However, the manuscript still requires a further revision according to the detailed comments listed below. Table(s) and figure(s): There are 2 Figures and 2 Tables should be improved. Detailed suggestions for each are listed in the specific comments section.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have revised in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

(4) References: A total of 30 references are cited, including 5 published in the last 3 years. The reviewer requests the authors to cite improper references published by

him/herself.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have revised in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

4 Language evaluation: The English-language grammatical presentation needs to be improved to a certain extent. There are many errors in grammar and format, throughout the entire manuscript. Before final acceptance, the authors must provide the English Language Certificate issued by a professional English language editing company. Please visit the following website for the professional English language editing companies we recommend: <https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/240>.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have invited a professional English editing team to polish our article. If there are still any issues, we can revise it according to your requirements again.

5 Specific comments:

(1) Please provide the Figures cited in the original manuscript in the form of PPT. All text can be edited, including A, B, arrows, etc. With respect to the reference to the Figure, please verify if it is an original image created for the manuscript, if not, please provide the source of the picture and the proof that the Figure has been authorized by the previous publisher or copyright owner to allow it to be redistributed. All legends are incorrectly formatted and require a general title and explanation for each figure. Such as Figure 1 title. A: ; B: ; C: .

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have revised in the manuscript according to your suggestions. We verify that all the figures are original image created for the manuscript.

(2) Please obtain permission for the use of picture(s). If an author of a submission is re-using a figure or figures published elsewhere, or that is copyrighted, the author must provide documentation that the previous publisher or copyright holder has given permission for the figure to be re-published, and correctly indicate the reference source and copyrights. For example, “Figure 1 Histopathological examination by hematoxylin-eosin staining (200 ×). A: Control group; B: Model group; C: Pioglitazone hydrochloride group; D: Chinese herbal medicine group.

Citation: Yang JM, Sun Y, Wang M, Zhang XL, Zhang SJ, Gao YS, Chen L, Wu MY, Zhou L, Zhou YM, Wang Y, Zheng FJ, Li YH. Regulatory effect of a Chinese herbal medicine formula on non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. World J Gastroenterol 2019; 25(34): 5105-5119. Copyright ©The Author(s) 2019. Published by Baishideng Publishing Group Inc[6]". And please cite the reference source in the references list. If the author fails to properly cite the published or copyrighted picture(s) or table(s) as described above, he/she will be subject to withdrawal of the article from BPG publications and may even be held liable.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. The images used in the manuscript are original and do not involve citations, therefore authorization is not required.

(3) Please don't include any \*, #, †, §, ‡, ¥, @....in your manuscript; Please use superscript numbers for illustration; and for statistical significance, please use superscript letters. Statistical significance is expressed as aP <0.05, bP <0.01 (P > 0.05 usually does not need to be denoted). If there are other series of P values, cP <0.05 and dP <0.01 are used, and a third series of P values is expressed as eP <0.05 and fP <0.01.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have checked in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

(4) Please add the Core tip section. The number of words should be controlled between 50-100 words.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have added in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

(5) The "Article Highlights" section is missing. Please add the "Article Highlights" section at the end of the main text (and directly before the References).

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have added in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

(6) Please provide the Biostatistics statement.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have added in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

(7) Please provide the Institutional review board statement.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have added in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

(8) Please provide the Informed consent statement.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have added in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

(9) Please provide the Clinical trial registration statement.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have added in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

(10) Please provide the PubMed numbers and DOI citation numbers to the reference list and list all authors of the references. If there is no PMID or DOI, please provide the website address.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have revised in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

(11) Abbreviations other than special types of words such as COVID-19 and SARS-CoV-2 are not allowed in the article title, and no more than 18 words are allowed. The title cannot start with "the, a, an".

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have revised in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

6 Recommendation: Conditional acceptance.

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

**Company editor-in-chief:**

I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Clinical Cases, 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. I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, 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 its final acceptance, please provide and upload the following important documents:

Biostatistics Review Certificate, a statement affirming that the statistical review of the study was performed by a biomedical statistician;

Clinical Trial Registration Statement, an important document required for any clinical research study that prospectively assigns human participants or groups of humans to one or more health-related interventions to evaluate the effects on health outcomes;

Institutional Review Board Approval Form or Document, the primary version (PDF) of the Institutional Review Board's official approval, prepared in the official language of the authors' country;

Signed Informed Consent Form(s) or Document(s), the primary version (PDF) of the Informed Consent Form that has been signed by all subjects and investigators of the study, prepared in the official language of the authors' country;

CONSORT 2010 Statement, an important document related to manuscript writing of clinical trial, randomized controlled trial, and randomized clinical trial research, and prospective studies.

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 (PPT): Copyright ©The Author(s) 2023. Before final acceptance, when revising the manuscript, the author must supplement and improve the highlights of the latest cutting-edge research results, thereby further improving the content of the manuscript.

To this end, authors are advised to apply a new tool, the Reference Citation Analysis (RCA). RCA is an artificial intelligence technology-based open multidisciplinary citation analysis database. In it, upon obtaining search results from the keywords entered by the author, "Impact Index Per Article" under "Ranked by" should be selected to find the latest highlight articles, which can then be used to further improve an article under preparation/peer-review/revision. Please visit our RCA database for more information at: <https://www.referencecitationanalysis.com/>.

**Reply:** Thank you very much for your comments. We have revised in the manuscript according to your suggestions.

Sincerely,

Ying-Shi Sun

E-mail: sys27@163.com

Key laboratory of Carcinogenesis and Translational Research (Ministry of Education/Beijing), Peking University Cancer Hospital & Institute, 52 Fucheng Road, Haidian District, Beijing 100142, China