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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 21231

Title: Sorafenib after resection improves the outcome of BCLC stage C hepatocellular carcinoma

Reviewer's code: 00503469

Reviewer's country: Netherlands

Science editor: Jing Yu

Date sent for review: 2015-07-04 23:03

Date reviewed: 2015-08-06 18:11

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The lay-out of the article is clear. The objectives are stated in the introduction, which points out the relevance of this study. The study is built stepwise. The explanation of the results is well-written. The article should be accepted after minor language polishing and shortening of the introduction and discussion, which should be more concise.



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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 21231

Title: Sorafenib after resection improves the outcome of BCLC stage C hepatocellular carcinoma

Reviewer's code: 00006499

Reviewer's country: United States

Science editor: Jing Yu

Date sent for review: 2015-07-04 23:03

Date reviewed: 2015-07-20 09:26

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this study, the authors retrospectively compare surgical resection (SR) alone to SR + Adjuvant Sorafenib for patients with BCLC C hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). All patients had Childs A cirrhosis and PV tumor thrombus. 12 received SR + sorafenib within 30 days after surgery, and 234 had SR alone. SR+sorafenib group had a significantly longer TTP (29 months vs. 22 months), and a significantly longer median OS (37 months vs. 30 months) compared to patients in the SR group. The study is well-written and carefully performed by an experienced group. Several major concerns need to be addressed: 1. A concern is the very small sample size of 12 SR + sorafenib patients. 2. While this study is of interest, there are several major concerns regarding comparison between the two groups. This limits the potential relevance of the findings. For example, were the 2 groups comparable for presence of satellite tumors? Likewise were the 2 groups similar for etiology of cirrhosis with HBV/HCV? 3. It seems there may have been selection bias (surgeon preference or socioeconomic status of patient) in deciding which patients received Sorafenib.



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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 21231

Title: Sorafenib after resection improves the outcome of BCLC stage C hepatocellular carcinoma

Reviewer's code: 02937399

Reviewer's country: Spain

Science editor: Jing Yu

Date sent for review: 2015-07-04 23:03

Date reviewed: 2015-07-27 18:08

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript entitled "Sorafenib after resection improves the outcome of BCLC stage C hepatocellular carcinoma" by Liang Li et al. is an interesting study supporting other previous study in which it is supported the use of adjuvant Sorafenib in patients in BCLC C after liver resection. The study is worth but the authors should include more clinical characteristics (HBV genotypes, degree of fibrosis/cirrhosis, extrahepatic metastasis, multinodularity, etc) either in the text in case of absence of the variable, or in the Table I in case of differences among the patients with statistical analysis.