



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Oncology*

Manuscript NO: 77780

Title: Factors Predicting Upstaging from clinical N0 to pN2a/N3a in Breast Cancer Patients

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 02567394

Position: Editor-in-Chief

Academic degree: BSc, MSc, PhD

Professional title: Adjunct Professor, Senior Scientist

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United States

Author's Country/Territory: Japan

Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-25

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-05-25 14:57

Reviewer performed review: 2022-06-05 00:25

Review time: 10 Days and 9 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



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Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Anonymous [<input type="checkbox"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="checkbox"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors used a retrospective cohort study to investigate an important clinical issue. Overall, the results are interesting. However, some major concerns need to be addressed before acceptance of publications. 1) A flow diagram of the study cohort is needed to address criteria that were used to select the patients. 2) A biostatistician is needed to ensure the proper statistical analysis, which may significantly influence their conclusions. 3) In Figure 1, since SLNDmax and number of ALNMs do not follow the normal distribution, the Pearson correlation analysis is not correct. The authors should use spearman correlation analysis. 4) In table 2, for these continuous variables, they can be presented by mean and standard deviation, but the t-test cannot be used to examine the difference between two groups since they do not follow the normal distribution. Non-parametric test (Mann-Whitney test) is proper.



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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05244644

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Chief Doctor, Deputy Director, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Japan

Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-25

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-06-27 08:52

Reviewer performed review: 2022-06-28 03:59

Review time: 19 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
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Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Please check over typos.



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Title: Factors Predicting Upstaging from clinical N0 to pN2a/N3a in Breast Cancer Patients

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05771662

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Japan

Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-25

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-06-28 22:30

Reviewer performed review: 2022-07-07 15:10

Review time: 8 Days and 16 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" 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
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. The selection of topic is novel and owns certain clinical value; 2. The maximal diameter of metastasis in the sentinel lymph nodes in Figure 1, The invasion diameter of the primary lesion and the maximal diameter of metastasis in the SLNs $>5\text{m} \leq 5\text{m}$ have in Figure 2 is no units; 3. The maximal diameter of metastasis in the SLNs $>5\text{m} \leq 5\text{m}$ in Figure 2 is not complete and the unit is wrong; 4. The number of digits after the decimal point is not uniform in the P value; 5 What is the significance of using Mammography and MRI?



RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Chief Doctor, Deputy Director, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: Japan

Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-25

Reviewer chosen by: Han Zhang

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-07-27 08:13

Reviewer performed review: 2022-07-27 09:01

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" 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
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statements

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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The application of FDG PET/CT to evaluate axillary lymph node in patients with breast cancer clinically diagnosed as N0 may upstage patients' stage. However, it may lead to excessively diagnosis and waste of medical resources.



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Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-25

Reviewer chosen by: Han Zhang

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-07-27 19:57

Reviewer performed review: 2022-07-29 02:22

Review time: 1 Day and 6 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
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Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The revised manuscript has been improved, and the authors have responded to prior critiques in satisfactory manner.