

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

**Manuscript NO:** 70852

**Title:** Hematopoiesis reconstitution and anti-tumor effectiveness of Pai-Neng-Da capsule in acute leukemia patients with haploidentical hematopoietic stem cell transplantation

**Provenance and peer review:** Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 03290608

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

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**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

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**Review time:** 6 Days and 5 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	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

Yuan JJ and colleagues present convincing evidence for the function of PND in acute leukemia patients with haploidentical hematopoietic stem cell transplantation. The authors found PND could promote hematopoiesis reconstitution and prolong the survival of acute leukemia patients with haploidentical hematopoietic stem cell transplantation. For the most part the article is clearly written but there are several important issues that need clarification. 1. The authors have submitted the ethical review in attachment. This information should be showed in the Materials and Methods section. 2. What is the definition of Western Medical Evaluation Standards? The authors should show it clear in the Materials and Methods section. 3. In this study, univariate approaches were applied to demonstrate importance of PND in acute leukemia patients. Moreover, the authors have provided much information on these patients in Table1. I would suggest that the author re-analyse their data using multifactor models (for example logistic model or cox regression model) or similar analysis. Also, could the author provide the hazard ratio of PND? 4. In this study, conditioning regimen is CTX+Ara-C, which is not a conditioning regimen recommended by the standard. Is the implantation effect impacted by the conditioning regimen? The PGF of the non-PND group is as high as 25.8%. 5. Figure 1C shows platelets count over 20 on the about twelfth day after transplantation in both groups, which means most of them are implanted. Why does PGF still appear? 6. The manuscript only mentions the incidence of aGVHD. What is the proportion of mild, moderate, and severe? 7. What are the common infections in the course of illness? Is there a difference in the severity of the two groups? Does it affect the prognosis? Does this affect hematopoietic

reconstruction? 8. In Fig.2, the author performed Kaplan-Meier survival analysis to explore the influence of PND in acute leukemia patients. In consideration of the long-term follow-up required to study the role of PND in the prognosis of acute leukemia, I recommend the authors to retrieve the clinical demographic information of patients with a follow-up time of over 6 months, which might help to minimize the impact of prognosis due to non-PND-related reasons. 9. The English writing needs to be substantially improved.

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**Reviewer's code:** 05183815

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**Professional title:** Consultant Physician-Scientist

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Italy

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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
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<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	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

In this paper, Yuan and Colleagues report on the use of PND capsules after haploidentical HSCT in 60 patients affected by acute leukemia. The paper is interesting and address an "orphan" topic in the field of HSCT. However, several issues need to be addressed before acceptance. Major: 1) Since this is a retrospective study, it is not specified how allocation to treatment was chosen: please report criteria for PND administration. Moreover, it is curious that in 60 consecutive patients almost half received the treatment and half not; and that the 2 cohorts are perfectly matched; this seems much more a case-control study: please comment further. 2) the study was conducted also in children 2-year old. How was the dose of PND determined in such a population. 3) the authors report a reduced frequency of transfusions but do not give any measure of that. Frequency of transfusions of the 2 cohorts are needed. 4) What grading scale of side effects was used? ctcae? 5) Several studies highlighted the role of some cytokines (tnf-alpha, ifn-gamma) in the pathogenesis of graft failure/poor graft function; please comment in the discussion section how PND may interact with them. Minor: 1) more biology on effects of PND should be reported also in the introduction. 2) methods: source of stem cell is lacking? Bm, pbmc, both? 3) figure 1: median or mean? Add error (as sd, sem, ..) or range 4) discussion" " It was confirmed that PND Capsule could decrease the myelosuppression caused by chemotherapy, accelerate hematopoietic function recovery, especially for erythroid and megakaryocytic lineages, following haplo-HSCT. ". Too strong for a retrospective study. Smooth the sentence. 5) part of the discussion on anti-cancer effect is too weak. Synergy with chemotherapy cannot be argued since PND was given from day +6. Expand further.



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