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ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 10316

Title: The Role of Surgery and Transplantation in the Treatment of Hepatic Metastases from Neuroendocrine Tumor

Reviewer code: 01435993

Science editor: Yuan Qi

Date sent for review: 2014-03-26 17:15

Date reviewed: 2014-04-01 03:18

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	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"/> Existed	<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"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

General comment: This is a review article summarizing current treatment options for patients with liver metastases from neuroendocrine tumor. The authors reviewed the outcomes of hepatic resection, liver transplantation, image guided ablation, intra-arterial ablation and systemic therapy for patients with liver metastases from neuroendocrine tumor. They concluded that an individualized treatment approach to patient care is needed and more trials are required to validate the role of specific therapies in the management of this neoplasm. Specific comments: 1. This is a clear and well-written review article and will have significant impact on this specific and rare condition of neoplasm. 2. There is a need to give an abstract of this review. 3. Although English is well written, there are still some typo mistakes that need to be addressed. For examples, on page 1 in the introduction section, line 8 from the bottom, "NEC" should be "NET". On page 5 line 2, "NE" should be "NET". One page 8 line 6, "multi-centric" may be "multi-centre" etc. 4. There is no page number. 5. Tables 2.1, Table 3.1 and Table 4.1 should label as Table 2, Table 3 and Table 4. In addition, there are no indications of where these tables should be placed in the text, although it is clear each table belongs to each chapter of the article.



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ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 10316

Title: The Role of Surgery and Transplantation in the Treatment of Hepatic Metastases from Neuroendocrine Tumor

Reviewer code: 01168670

Science editor: Yuan Qi

Date sent for review: 2014-03-26 17:15

Date reviewed: 2014-04-04 23:20

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	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"/> Existed	<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"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The review article by Alagusundaramoorthy, Sayee, and Gedaly entitled, "The role of surgery and transplantation in the treatment of hepatic metastases from neuroendocrine tumor" seeks to review treatment strategies, local-regional and systemic, for patients with metastatic neuroendocrine tumors involving the liver. This review is overall well-written and informative, however several questions or criticisms should be addressed below:

- 1) The title does not reflect the content of the manuscript in that other local-regional therapies are reviewed along with resection and transplantation. For accuracy and to avoid bias, the title should be changed to more accurately reflect the content.
- 2) The issue of patient selection and inherent limitations in evaluating contemporary practice must be acknowledged. Survival rates are compared based upon retrospective/experiential studies which are inherently limited by alterations in patient selection. This is known to result in selection of patients with varying tumor burdens, grade/stage, tumor types, and center experience or preference.
- 3) Further detail must be provided when reviewing some of the experiences in the literature. It is very clear for example, that neuroendocrine tumors can vary widely with respect to risk of overall progression. This is particularly notable for cases of carcinoid vs. other NETs. This is briefly eluded in the last section on systemic therapy, but is entirely disregarded in the earlier sections on other local-regional therapies (ablation, surgery, transplant, TACE). Mention is made of grade being important with respect to transplant, however no information is provided about influence of these factors on expected outcomes with surgery, RFA, and other modalities. Recommendations for surgery in the discussion and conclusion must therefore be tempered by the underlying biology and



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tumor type. Other reviews and experiences certainly recommend a more circumspect approach for example to patients with metastatic carcinoid or disease not able to undergo an R0 resection for low grade who can otherwise experience a very long, symptom-free long term survival. 4) The tables need to be clarified in that some data cells contain units with “months” whereas others do not. The cells should be consistent or if no room, then footnote should be provided as to what units the data reflect. 5) While the manuscript is generally very readable, there are some grammar and word choice errors that should be corrected.