

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 71048

**Title:** Significance of preoperative peripheral blood neutrophil-lymphocyte ratio in predicting postoperative survival in patients with multiple myeloma bone disease

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

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 00503563

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Staff Physician

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-08-29

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-08-30 05:01

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-09-01 03:28

**Review time:** 1 Day and 22 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input 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="radio"/> ] Anonymous [ <input type="radio"/> ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="radio"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="radio"/> ] No
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### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The authors demonstrated the prognostic impact of preoperative neutrophil-lymphocyte ratio (NLR) in patients with multiple myeloma (MM) bone disease. There are some comments. Comments 1. Several investigators have reported that many blood markers such as monocyte-lymphocyte ratio and platelet-lymphocyte ratio have the prognostic impact in patients with MM. However, the authors focused on NLR alone in the present study. The authors should indicate about this issue. 2. Many investigators have demonstrated the prognostic significance of NLR in patients with MM. What is the new finding in this study?

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**Reviewer's code:** 04092906

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** BSc, MSc, PhD

**Professional title:** Senior Researcher

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** South Africa

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-08-29

**Reviewer chosen by:** Xin Liu (Online Science Editor)

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-12-01 17:58

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-12-12 14:17

**Review time:** 10 Days and 20 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
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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

The study titled: Significance of preoperative peripheral blood neutrophil-lymphocyte ratio in predicting postoperative survival in patients with multiple myeloma bone disease is an important study worthy of publication but correction needs major revisions

- I struggled to follow the grammar and hence easily understand the paper. Even though the authors provided a grammar certificate, the poor use of tenses and sometimes difficulty in understanding what is being discussed was a concern. E.g., this entire section of the key results o “The 3-year and 5-year cumulative survival rate was significantly lower in patients with high (n=26) than with low(n=56) NLR (19.1% vs. 67.2%, P<0.001) (0.0% vs. 48.3%, p<0.001).” is difficult to follow. In the methods section, the groups they mention are not defined o Use of tenses e.g., is instead of was o This sentence line 126 which reads: The average POS was 27.03±21.31 months should read: The average time POS was 27.03±21.31 months o Starting a sentence with a number is not acceptable in scientific writing, line 139 o What is NLR>3 group? o Lots of formatting errors hear and there. Commas in the wrong place and double full stop at one point.
- Abbreviations in the abstract that are not defined are difficult to make out as these are not standard.
- Let the reader know in the abstract already the setting of the study i.e., hospital name.
- Methods section both in abstract and body should specify how NLR was obtained. No formular is mentioned and no clear indication how the neutrophil and lymphocyte count was obtained by the hospital is alluded to.
- The background/introduction is not elaborative enough/hypothesis driven.
- I wondered how treatment could have influenced NLR since most of the patients were treated. I know the authors say there was no significant difference - Exact time or an estimate of



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the last follow up visit should be provided. - Authors do not explain what operation the patients got. It will be helpful to the reader. - Provide company name of statistical packages in brackets. - This sentence: "There was no significant difference in preoperative chemotherapy regimens ( $P=0.216$ ), time from a diagnosis to surgery ( $p=0.321$ )." I am not sure if it is with reference to the regimen or the time? - Abbreviation used that were not defined before e.g., AST - Please provide exact p values and not just  $p>0.05$  or  $p<0.05$  - Lots of tables for data that is already reported in text. Consider consolidating some of the tables. The same apply to a good number of figures e.g., figures 1-4 should be consolidated into one figure with A-D and Figures 5 and 6. - The A and B in figures 5 and 6 are not explained. Consider revising the legends to be more explicit. - Table 9 and 10 don't really belong in the table. Those belong to the discussion and should be discussed

## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 04092906

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** BSc, MSc, PhD

**Professional title:** Senior Researcher

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** South Africa

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-08-29

**Reviewer chosen by:** Yu-Lu Chen

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-01-08 05:36

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-01-08 06:06

**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
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous



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statements

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

#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Please highlight sections in the paper where corrections were made to make re-reviewing easier. Also clarify the page and page number where this was done. See additional comments attached.