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# ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology
**ESPS manuscript NO:** 30097
**Title:** Prognostic value of glycated hemoglobin in colorectal cancer
**Reviewer's code:** 00505564
**Reviewer's country:** United States
**Science editor:** Jing Yu
**Date sent for review:** 2016-09-12 15:48
**Date reviewed:** 2016-09-16 02:15

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT | CONCLUSION |
|---|---|---|---|
| [ ] Grade A: Excellent | [ ] Grade A: Priority publishing | Google Search: | [ ] Accept |
| [Y] Grade B: Very good | [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing | [ ] The same title | [Y] High priority for publication |
| [ ] Grade C: Good | [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing | [ ] Duplicate publication | [ ] Rejection |
| [ ] Grade D: Fair | [ ] Grade D: Rejected | [ ] Plagiarism | [ ] Minor revision |
| [ ] Grade E: Poor | | [Y] No | [ ] Major revision |
| | | BPG Search: | |
| | | [ ] The same title | |
| | | [ ] Duplicate publication | |
| | | [ ] Plagiarism | |
| | | [Y] No | |

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Ferroni et al. and colleagues investigated the clinical significance of routinely used glycemic parameters in a cohort of patients suffering from colorectal cancer. In the study, they retrospectively used pre-treatment fasting blood glucose, insulin, HbA1c and homeostasis model of risk assessment (HOMA-IR) to evaluate in a case-control study of 224 CRC and 112 control subjects matched for sex, obesity and diabetes frequency and blood lipid profile. Furthermore, the prognostic value of routinely used glycemic parameters towards progression-free (PFS) and overall (OS) survival was prospectively evaluated. Based on their results and considerations, they conclude that pre-treatment HbA1c levels might have a negative prognostic value in CRC patients. However, they caution that these results needs additional studies requiring prospectively evaluate the clinical value of pre-treatment HbA1c levels in CRC. The authors also believe that glycemic metabolic markers should carefully be monitored in CRC patients, independently of T2D, as they could provide important information in risk stratification. Future investigations specifically designed to address the role of HbA1c in the management of CRC patients may providing the rationale for lifestyle or glucose targeting dietary/pharmacologic interventions as a means of improving CRC outcomes. The study

is interesting and the observational results is intriguing. Please be advised and make the discussion short.

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# ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology
**ESPS manuscript NO:** 30097
**Title:** Prognostic value of glycated hemoglobin in colorectal cancer
**Reviewer's code:** 00505467
**Reviewer's country:** Greece
**Science editor:** Jing Yu
**Date sent for review:** 2016-09-12 15:48
**Date reviewed:** 2016-09-26 19:28

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT | CONCLUSION |
|---|---|---|---|
| [ ] Grade A: Excellent | [ Y] Grade A: Priority publishing | Google Search: | [ Y] Accept |
| [ Y] Grade B: Very good | [ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing | [ ] The same title | [ ] High priority for publication |
| [ ] Grade C: Good | [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing | [ ] Duplicate publication | [ ] Rejection |
| [ ] Grade D: Fair | [ ] Grade D: Rejected | [ ] Plagiarism | [ ] Minor revision |
| [ ] Grade E: Poor | | [ Y ] No | [ ] Major revision |
| | | BPG Search: | |
| | | [ ] The same title | |
| | | [ ] Duplicate publication | |
| | | [ ] Plagiarism | |
| | | [ Y ] No | |

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I hope that there will be a future study from your institution that will address the limitations of this one, perhaps adding more innovative technology and accruing a better sample.

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# ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology
**ESPS manuscript NO:** 30097
**Title:** Prognostic value of glycated hemoglobin in colorectal cancer
**Reviewer's code:** 02533276
**Reviewer's country:** Spain
**Science editor:** Jing Yu
**Date sent for review:** 2016-09-12 15:48
**Date reviewed:** 2016-10-05 17:50

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT | CONCLUSION |
|---|---|---|---|
| [ ] Grade A: Excellent | [ ] Grade A: Priority publishing | Google Search: | [ ] Accept |
| [ ] Grade B: Very good | [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing | [ ] The same title | [ ] High priority for publication |
| [Y] Grade C: Good | [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing | [ ] Duplicate publication | [ ] Rejection |
| [ ] Grade D: Fair | [ ] Grade D: Rejected | [ ] Plagiarism | [Y] Minor revision |
| [ ] Grade E: Poor | | [Y] No | [ ] Major revision |
| | | BPG Search: | |
| | | [ ] The same title | |
| | | [ ] Duplicate publication | |
| | | [ ] Plagiarism | |
| | | [Y] No | |

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This study described the clinical significance of routinely used glycemic parameters (fasting blood glucose, insulin, HbA1c and HOMA-IR in a cohort of colorectal cancer patients. Authors conclude that pre-treatment HbA1c levels might have a negative prognostic value in CRC patients. The study is interesting but I have some concerns that in my opinion authors should solve. Regarding the HbA1c levels (Tables 1 and 2) I consider that the range of values should be included in order to better understand the statistically significant difference found between groups. In Figure 1, authors show the outliers as circles, but I would like to know if these outliers have been included for the statistical analysis. Authors indicate that pre-treatment HbA1c levels have a negative predictive value for progression-free survival in the colorectal cancer cohort (Figure 4), however I would like to know how many patients are included in each group (Q1….Q4) and how long was the mean time of follow up of patients.