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ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery

ESPS manuscript NO: 13971

Title: Long-Term Survival Following Radiofrequency Ablation of Colorectal Liver Metastases; a Retrospective Study

Reviewer code: 00053888

Science editor: Xue-Mei Gong

Date sent for review: 2014-09-12 10:40

Date reviewed: 2014-10-22 00:27

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | RECOMMENDATION | CONCLUSION |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing | Google Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <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 | | BPG Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a study of 49 patients who underwent RFA to CRC liver metastases between 2005 & 2008. I assume the fact no further patients were included was to allow a 5 year follow up. This is a pity as if the authors had used a KM survival analysis instead of crude survival then additional patients could have been included which would make the data more meaningful. Because of this the number of patients is too small to make any meaningful conclusions. My main concern is that the authors do not state how they chose RFA for these patients and excluded them from surgical resection. Surgical resection is the gold standard treatment for CRC liver metastases and unless as part of a clinical trial patients should be offered the gold standard first unless these patients did not have disease amenable to surgical resection or were otherwise unfit. The former seems unlikely looking at the size and number of metastases included. In addition there are a significant number of grammatical errors, for example the first sentence in material & methods, unspecific should read non-specific, etc.



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ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery

ESPS manuscript NO: 13971

Title: Long-Term Survival Following Radiofrequency Ablation of Colorectal Liver Metastases; a Retrospective Study

Reviewer code: 00009064

Science editor: Xue-Mei Gong

Date sent for review: 2014-09-12 10:40

Date reviewed: 2014-11-12 01:36

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | RECOMMENDATION | CONCLUSION |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing | Google Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication |
| <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor | | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The basis on which you say that more than 5 mets in the liver and any of size > 40 mm are not suitable for RFA is not clear. The difference in the survival in patients selected on stricter criteria compared with all the treated patients does not appear statistically significant. The statement thus needs to be moderated.



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ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery

ESPS manuscript NO: 13971

Title: Long-Term Survival Following Radiofrequency Ablation of Colorectal Liver Metastases; a Retrospective Study

Reviewer code: 02445561

Science editor: Xue-Mei Gong

Date sent for review: 2014-09-12 10:40

Date reviewed: 2014-11-12 06:33

| CLASSIFICATION | LANGUAGE EVALUATION | RECOMMENDATION | CONCLUSION |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing | Google Search: | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <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"/> Minor revision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor | | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing | <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> No records | |

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

WELL WRITTEN