

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

ESPS manuscript NO: 29715

Title: Bayesian adjustment of gastric cancer mortality rate in the presence of misclassification

Reviewer's code: 02446450

Reviewer's country: United Kingdom

Science editor: Jin-Xin Kong

Date sent for review: 2016-08-26 14:28

Date reviewed: 2016-09-22 01:11

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
☐ Grade A: Excellent	☐ Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	☐ Accept
☐ 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		☒ No	☐ Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		☐ The same title	
		☐ Duplicate publication	
		☐ Plagiarism	
		☒ No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

A study from Iran using a Bayesian approach to estimate the under-reporting of gastric cancer as the named cause of death for certification. The authors estimate that 3-7% of deaths from gastric cancer are mis-labelled as 'cancer non-specific type'. The authors argue that this under-reporting (of gastric cancer) should be taken into account in policy making and Public health studies. According to the numbers generated in this study this error equates to approximately 100 cases per year (out of a total of 5000-6000 cases per year). I am not convinced that this is significant under-reporting, and it is unlikely to significantly alter policy making. The study is an exercise in biostatistics and I am unconvinced of the clinical relevance in this situation for gastric cancer. Perhaps applying this methodology to another disease may produce a more clinically relevant change in disease incidence. I would suggest that a statistical opinion is sought to check the methodology.

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

ESPS manuscript NO: 29715

Title: Bayesian adjustment of gastric cancer mortality rate in the presence of misclassification

Reviewer's code: 00502831

Reviewer's country: Japan

Science editor: Jin-Xin Kong

Date sent for review: 2016-08-26 14:28

Date reviewed: 2016-08-29 06:41

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
☐ Grade A: Excellent	☒ Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	☐ Accept
☐ 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		☒ No	☐ Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		☐ The same title	
		☐ Duplicate publication	
		☐ Plagiarism	
		☒ No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors used Bayesian method to estimate the rate of misclassification that occurred by registering cancer (with no label) as the cause of death instead of deaths that have occurred because of gastric cancer in cancer registry form. The authors concluded that Bayesian approach would be a good and flexible alternative to estimate the effects of misclassification in registered cancer mortality. #1. The authors should mention the ranking of cause of death and of cancer related death in Iran. #2. The authors should describe about the problems of actual death registry system in Iran. #3. It was difficult to understand Bayesian approach. So the authors should explain the Bayesian approach more detail using schema. #5. In Fig1 and 2, what does mean Bayesian?. It means Bayesian? Please check and revise.

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

ESPS manuscript NO: 29715

Title: Bayesian adjustment of gastric cancer mortality rate in the presence of misclassification

Reviewer's code: 01135743

Reviewer's country: China

Science editor: Jin-Xin Kong

Date sent for review: 2016-08-26 14:28

Date reviewed: 2016-09-08 22:17

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

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting research. Accurate cancer statistics is crucial for cancer prevention and treatment; however, the current cancer statistical report usually cannot reach this standard. In this study, the authors performed Bayesian adjustment for gastric cancer mortality rate in the presence of misclassification, and they found that there is an undercount in gastric cancer mortality in Iranian registered data that researchers and authorities should notice that in sequential estimations and policy making. This study is of great practical significance.