

Reviewer #1:

Scientific Quality: Grade D (Fair)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Major revision

Specific Comments to Authors: 1.The present study aims to explore novel markers consists of miRNA-associated signature for PTC prognostication. The study indicated a four miRNAs signature that has a robust predicting effect on the prognosis of PTC. Accordingly, we would recommend more radical therapy and more closer follow-up for high-risk groups. 2In the era of precision medicine, a molecular biomarker-guided treatment and more accurate patient survival prediction are demanding a prompt solution. These efforts have been enormously successful in the field of PTC.The conclusions appropriately summarize the data that the study provided. 3.This study only uses bioinformatics methods for analysis, and the author can add specific experiments to verify.

Point-by-point response:

Thank you very much for your review and response. In this article, we obtained and analyzed data of 497 PTC patients from the TCGA. To build prediction model more accurately, these patients were randomly assigned to a training cohort or testing cohort. Furthermore, we used to validate the prediction model in another whole-transcriptome sequencing cohort which contains 19 PTC samples. Our results indicated the four miRNAs signature that has a robust predicting effect on the prognosis of PTC. Currently, we are working on the validation and optimization of the four miRNAs signature in a larger sample cohort. Further articles will be published later.

Reviewer #2:

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Accept (General priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: The authors have investigated the miRNA expression in patients with papillary thyroid cancer (PTC) using TCGA database. They aimed to identify the miRNA-associated signature for PTC prognostication. The results indicate that four-miRNA potential prognostic signature successfully predict the prognosis of PTC patients. The study design is well conducted, and the manuscript is well-written. Although a small amount of minor grammatical errors is found, I consider this manuscript has enough quality for publish.

Point-by-point response:

Thank you very much for your appreciation and recognition. We apologize for some grammatical errors in the paper. We had send our revised manuscript to a professional English language editing company to polish the manuscript. When we resubmit our manuscript, we will provide a new language certificate along with the manuscript.