

All the questions and comments from reviewers were taken into consideration carefully and the answers were shown as followed.

Reviewer #1:

1. According to your study, there are 95 patients in the test group and 50 volunteers in the control group. What is the basis for this selection?

The sample size was calculated by the formula for sample size of clinical diagnostic test as below:

$$n = \left(\frac{Z_{1-\alpha/2} \times \sqrt{p \times (1-p)}}{\delta} \right)^2$$

P for both sensitivity and specificity as 0.85, α as 0.05, δ as 0.10, and the sample size n=49.

So, combined with collection of clinical cases, 56 malignant and 48 benign solid FLLs and 50 healthy livers were included in our study.

2. I recommended to add main exclusion criteria for the subjects included in the study.

The exclusion criteria were added in the section of “patients” in “MATERIALS AND METHODS”

3. How is combined diagnosis of conventional ultrasound and Emax performed and evaluated?

The method of combined diagnosis was added in the section of “Combined diagnosis of conventional US and Emax” in “MATERIALS AND METHODS”.

Reviewer #2:

In my opinion, the "MATERIALS AND METHODS" part is not well-organized and needs revision.

The “MATERIALS AND METHODS” part has been revised carefully.