

Pesaro (Italy), 24th May 2017

To Editor-in-Chief
World Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology

Dear Chief Editor,

we wish to submit the revised manuscript **ESPS Manuscript NO: 02520549, entitled Polyethylene Glycol microspheres loaded with irinotecan for Arterially Directed Embolic Therapy of metastatic liver cancer** by Giammaria Fiorentini, Riccardo Carandina, Donatella Sarti, Michele Nardella, , Gaetano Ramondo, Riccardo Inchingolo, Massimiliano Nestola, Daniel Barnes Navarro, Fernado Mugnoz Gomez, Luca Mulazzani, Camillo Aliberti

Reviewer's code:03077466

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

So far, it is really a great challenge to physicians to treat the unresectable liver metastases of CRC. In this study, the authors try to further investigate tumor response, and adverse events after chemoembolization of colorectal cancer liver metastases with polyethylene glycol embolics loaded with irinotecan, based on their previous study. Overall, this is a very strong prospective study with solid experimental design. The manuscript is well written and the results support the authors' conclusion. The results are novel and provide promising clue to physicians. Only minor flaw with this study is that it just includes 50 patients, the conclusions need more large cohort study to validate

Author response: We specified in the discussion the limitation of this study, and the need of future studies with larger number of patients

Reviewer's code:03408355

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This paper submitted by Fiorentini et al, investigated the anti-tumor actions of polyethylene glycol embolics in treating colorectal cancer with liver metastasis. The following were some comments on this manuscript:1. Only 50 patients were enrolled. A large scale multicenter study was suggested.

Author response: We specified in the discussion the limitation of this study, and the need of future studies with larger number of patients

2. The therapeutic efficacy of chemoembolization was not compared with conventional treatments.

Author response: all the patients of the study were refractory to previous systemic chemotherapy lines, their only chance of treatment was the best supportive care. It is interesting that we observed improvements of quality of life and high tumor response.

3. Table 2 could be changed into a chart, which may help the readers understand better.

Author response: we made the change

4. In Figure 2, the tumor could be circled with dots.

Author response: we made the requested change to figure 2

5. There were some language mistakes and this paper could benefit from professional editing.

Author response: we improved the language of the manuscript

It is understood that: (1) all authors listed above concur with the submitted version of the manuscript and with the listing of the authors; (2) authorship credit is based on important contributions in one or more of the following areas: conception and design, analysis and interpretation of data, drafting of the manuscript or making intellectual contributions to its content.

Best Regards,

The corresponding author on behalf of all authors

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