Reviewer's report

Title: Survival and Hepatitis Status among Asian Americans with Hepatocellular Carcinoma Treated without Liver Transplantation

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Reviewer: Norihiro Kokudo

Reviewer's report:

The authors investigated the characteristics, tumor status, and clinical outcomes of Asian American (AA) patients with hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) that were referred to their tertiary cancer center. They found that most AA patients had tumors of an advanced stage, and consequently, their survival outcomes were very poor. They also identified that HBV infection is still a major etiology of HCC development, and emphasized that screening of HBV and early detection of HCC are crucial.

In general, the manuscript is well-structured, and their conclusions are reasonable.

I have some questions (discretionary revisions);

1. 47.6% of the patients received chemotherapy only, and 6.1% received chemotherapy plus surgery. What kind of anticancer drug was applied to these patients? Currently, there are few anticancer drugs which are shown to be effective to HCC. I think that chemotherapy may be harmful for cirrhotic livers.

2. The Discussion is too redundant. I admit that the primary care physicians are to be responsible for the screening and surveillance of HCC among AA population, but sentences of similar contents appeared repeatedly. It is better to refine the discussion.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.