Reviewer's report

Title: Intrahepatic Biliary Mucinous Cystic Neoplasms: Clinicoradiological Characteristics and Surgical Results

Version: 2 Date: 8 February 2015

Reviewer: Terry Lairmore

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript was reviewed for clarity, organization, appropriate grammar, appropriateness of results/conclusions based on data presented, and scientific impact/interest. The following comments/criticisms are made:

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. While it is understood that English is not the author's first language, there are some language/grammatical errors. These are minor but too numerous to list. The manuscript should be read and corrected by a primary English speaking author/editor.

2. This is a retrospective review of the clinicopathologic features of patients with intrahepatic biliary cystic mucinous neoplasms at a single high volume HPB center over a 25 year period. This is a rare clinical entity and the current data review does provide important features of the presentation and imaging features of these tumors. This manuscript reports one of the largest series of such patients and therefore adds to the current literature.

3. The clinical and radiographic features are described effectively and in adequate detail, and the imaging features are illustrated will by the figures. The typical features of presentation are also well described and useful. There are inherent limitations to this type of retrospective analysis, specifically the fact that the study period encompasses a long period with differing surgical approaches, technology, imaging capabiilites , and pathologic understanding or classification of the neoplasms described. These limitations cannot be avoided due to the rare nature of these tumors and the nature of retrospective collection of data.

4. The report of results regarding the usefulness of tumor markers as measured in cyst fluid or serum is also useful and is reported for a significant percentage of the tumors in this large collected series. This data is useful and adds to the current literature.

5. One of the most significant results of the current study is the authors' conclusion that less than radical resection results in a higher recurrence rate, and therefore a statement that radical resection is preferred whenever possible. The manuscript states that patients included in the study had their extent of hepatic resection determined by individual factors and surgeon preference. The author's should state the factors that should be considered in choosing the extent of
surgery. For example, magnitude of comorbid conditions, hepatic reserve or underlying function, positivity for Hepatitis B or C, etc.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**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.